

Hafa Adai!

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Saipan Tribune

Still no signs of victim

A U.S. Coast Guard helicopter searches yesterday for the occupant of a vehicle that plunged off Banzai Cliff last Saturday. Investigation remains ongoing.
MARC A. VENUS

By MARC A. VENUS
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REPORTER

The third day of scouring Banzai Cliff came and went yesterday but the Department of Public Safety has yet to find a trace of the person who reportedly drove an SUV over the Marpi cliff line and into the sea last Saturday.

DPS, together with the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the U.S. Coast Guard, and U.S. Navy, searched both land and the sea in the area since Satur-

day and only found the vehicle on Sunday. But no body.

The vehicle was identified as a white, tinted, 2006-2012 Toyota

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Japan Foreign Ministry honors Misako Kamata

Misako Kamata, who is president of Kinpachi Restaurant and the prime mover behind the Saipan Awaodori Team, which sends a Saipan delegation to the Awaodori Festival in Japan each year, was honored in a ceremony last Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan with the 2019 Japan Foreign Minister's Commendation for promoting the Japanese culture.

Japan consul to Saipan Kazuhiko Ono said it is a great pleasure for him to present the commendation to Kamata.

"I think the biggest contribution to the local community is to promote mutual understanding between Japan and the CNMI," Ono said, adding that Kamata not only established the Awaodori team, but also taught Japa-

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Japan Consul to Saipan Kazuhiko Ono, left, presents Misako Kamata, Kinpachi Restaurant president and Saipan Awaodori team organizer, with a commendation from Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs last Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

IVA MAURIN

Bill sets fees for Marpi sites

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives unanimously passed yesterday a bill that would create entrance fees for tourists seeking to check out Marpi and its tourist sites, including the Grotto and Kalabera Cave.

In a vote of 17-0, the House

passed House Bill 21-72, HS1, which was offered by Rep. Roman Benavente (R-Saipan) and Rep. Sheila Babauta's (Ind-Saipan).

The legislation would effectively mandate the Department of Public Lands to transfer to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources a freehold interest in public land in

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OPA: 126 complaints in FY 2019

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The CNMI Office of the Public Auditor reported that it received a total of 126 complaints in fiscal year 2019, which covers the period from Oct. 1,

2018, to Sept. 30, 2019.

In what it calls its citizen-centric report, OPA noted that 105 of the 126 total complaints were from Saipan, 18 were from Rota, and only three were from Tinian.

A citizen-centric report is created with the intent to be transparent to citizens and includes a breakdown of achievements and summary of ac-

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Local

PIC Saipan donates raised funds to Empty Vessel

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

To assist in the mission to help children in need in the CNMI, Pacific Islands Club Saipan recently donated \$3,500 to Empty Vessel Ministry, with the money coming from the funds that PIC raised during the Hafa

A dai 5K Color Run, which PIC organized last Oct. 5.

Out of all the money raised at the 5K Color Run, \$2,000 was used to buy school supplies, including notebooks, stationery, and water bottles, among others. The rest of the amount was donated in cash.

Empty Vessel Ministry

Foundation distributed the donated school supplies at the Resiliency Fest held at the Marianas Business Plaza last Saturday. The school supplies were given to 210 children.

"This donation is not entirely about us, but of the commu-

nity helping the community," said PIC Saipan general manager Gloria Cavanagh. "Every participant of Hafa Adai 5K was a part of this good cause. We want to thank everyone who joined Hafa Adai 5K as runners and volunteers.

We particularly wanted to help the youth of Saipan. We believe Empty Vessel Ministry would do a great job in reaching out to children who need assistance."

"We would like to extend our appreciation to Gloria

Cavanagh...and the whole management of PIC Saipan and E-Land Group for this generous donation as well as continuous partnership in reaching out to the community," said Rose Smith from Empty Vessel Ministry.

Lion's Club to host 5K walkathon

More than 30 million Americans have diabetes. Here in the CNMI, as much as 18% of adults have diabetes, according to a Commonwealth Health Care Corp. report in 2016.

To combat this disease, the Saipan Marianas Lions Club will hold its 2nd Annual 5K Walkathon Fundraiser (#LionsFightDiabetes) on Nov. 17, Sunday.

"As one of our global causes, we serve to reduce the prevalence of diabetes and improve the quality of life for those diagnosed. In 2015, 30.3 million Americans, or 9.4% of the population, had diabetes," said Ladyvir D. Canape, Lions Club

District 204 president.

The walkathon will begin at 5:30am at the Carolinian Utt, go through the Beach Road Pathway, and turn around at Monika's Gallery back to the Carolinian Utt.

Walkathon participants will need to register and pay \$15, and will receive a dri-fit Altanx shirt.

Half of the fundraiser's net proceeds will be donated to the CHCC Division of Public Health's Diabetes Control & Prevention Program.

For registration, email Judy Mendieta, committee chair for the 2nd Annual 5K Walkathon Fundraiser, at judy_mendieta@yahoo.com. (Iva Maurin)



Pacific Islands Club Saipan hands over a \$3,500 check to Empty Vessel Ministry from the fund raised from the Hafa Adai 5K Color Run that PIC organized last Oct. 5. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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2 cases vs man in alleged burglaries, contempt are dismissed

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed without prejudice Friday two criminal cases against

a man who is accused of committing several burglaries and violating the terms of his bail conditions.

Norita says he never denied permit to a company that is now suing him

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

As then-Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services commissioner, Claudio K. Norita said he never denied a fire system permit to a company that is suing him and a DFEMS fire inspector.

Norita pointed out that an installer's permit is not required for a fire suppression system to be installed or the system to be approved.

Norita's declaration was attached to support his motion for summary judgment that seeks dismissal of a lawsuit filed by Double A Corp.

Double A is a company that is engaged in the installation of fire sprinkler systems. The company sued Norita and DFEMS fire inspector Anthony Babauta last March for allegedly causing it to lose \$410,150 when DFEMS allegedly refused to accept its permit application.

Double A is suing for alleged deprivation of property without due process.

Double A, through counsel Joseph E. Horey, is demanding unspecified damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

In his declaration, Norita said he never received any application from Double A and was generally unaware that the company was seeking a fire system permit until he received the Open Government Act request.

He said he never received or saw an appeal—verbal or written—from Double A, regarding a fire system permit.

Norita said he never spoke with Proper Grand CNMI LLC about Double A or any fire sprinkler system that was to be installed in 2017 in any complex or building they owned.

He said the Division of Fire Prevention maintains a list of companies and persons who have previously installed fire suppression systems that had been approved. This list, he said, has no impact upon the approval or disapproval of any installed fire system.

"I have never expressed an opinion on adding or removing any company from this list," Norita said.

He said his role in the fire permitting system was to sign permits that were recommend-

ed by Division of Fire Prevention after he ensured applicants had paid their permit fees.

Norita said he never rejected a permit that was sent with a recommendation for approval from the Division of Fire Protection other than for lacking proof of payment.

In fact, permit applications that do not get a recommendation for approval by the Division of Fire Prevention are not routed for his review or approval, he said.



Norita

Assistant attorney general Kastle Lund Turner, counsel for Norita, asked the court to grant Norita's motion for summary judgment as he was acting pursuant to his authority as DFEMS Commissioner.

Turner said Norita's reliance on the recommendation of the Division of Fire Prevention was reasonable.

Turner said plaintiff points to no established law that Norita has violated.

According to Horey in the complaint, Double A submitted a quotation to Proper Grand CNMI LLC for the fire sprinkler system installation work on Oct. 20, 2017, for buildings operated by Proper Grand, known as Sugar King Dormitory.

Horey said Proper Grand agreed to hire Double A for the project at a price of \$410,150.

The lawyer said Double A applied for a permit with Babauta that would authorize it to install the sprinkler system.

Babauta allegedly refused to accept any permit application from Double A, failed to issue the permit sought, and failed to examine the company's application.

Horey said Double A appealed to Norita and that Norita also refused to accept any permit application from Double A and failed to state the reasons for his rejection of the application.

Horey said Double A lost the value of its contract with Proper Grand.

He said Norita and Babauta maintain a list of contractors for whom they will grant permits to install.

Horey said that, by excluding Double A from this list, defendants have effectively "blacklisted" the company and "deprived the company of its liberty to freely contract for lawful business."

Camacho dismissed without prejudice the cases against 33-year-old Martin Castro Jr. at the request of the Office of the Attorney General. That means the OAG may re-file the cases in the future.

Castro will then be released from the Department of Corrections.

In the government's motion to dismiss, assistant attorney general Heather P. Barcinas said the government believes that it is in the best interest of justice to dismiss the cases without prejudice.

Barcinas said she had com-

municated with assistant public defender Karie Constock, counsel for Castro, about the motion to dismiss and that the lawyer has no objections.

Saipan Tribune learned that the court had earlier stayed the cases pending Castro's mental evaluations.

Last July, police arrested Castro after he was allegedly caught on surveillance camera breaking and entering a room at the Sunshine Garden in Susupe and taking a cell phone.

Police later learned that Castro was also involved in the theft incident at Mo's Res-

taurant in Susupe last July after surveillance camera caught him walking into the establishment and grabbing the tip jar.

Police also identified Castro after surveillance camera's footage showed him entering an establishment and stealing a Samsung S7 cellphone last July 24.

Castro was released to a third-party custodian and placed under house arrest.

Last August, police arrested Castro again for contempt after leaving the house without his third-party custodian's knowledge.

Castro had been arrested several times in the past for burglary and theft cases. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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WHO regional director to visit CNMI this week

By **MARC A. VENUS**
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REPORTER

Dr. Takeshi Kasai, the Western Pacific Regional Office director of the World Health Organization, will be visiting the CNMI this Friday, Nov. 1 to talk about the CNMI and the Commonwealth Health Care Corp.'s goals and priorities on health in the CNMI.

According to CHCC spokesperson Zoe Travis,

Kasai will also kick off the CNMI's Emergency Medical Team training facilitated by the WHO. She confirmed that it will be the first time a WHO regional director will visit the CNMI and that CHCC looks forward to his visit.

Kasai was appointed regional director last January 2016 by the WHO executive board in Geneva, Switzerland.

According to WHO, Kasai intends to reinforce support

in three key areas that member states have identified as priorities for the future: health security, non-communicable diseases and aging, and environmental and climate change.

Last Oct. 8, health ministers and senior officials representing the 37 countries and areas of the WHO-WPRO agreed on priorities for WHO's work in the region in the next five years, with the goal of mak-

ing the Western Pacific the world's healthiest and safest region.

Issues such as fighting antimicrobial resistance, reducing smoking, eliminating measles and rubella, tackling the human immunodeficiency virus, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted infections, assessing progress on the strategy to end tuberculosis, addressing non-communicable diseases and improving mental health,

and implementing action for healthy newborns were discussed during a WHO conference in Manila.

Kasai has worked for WHO for more than 15 years, serving as director of program management for the past four years and serving as deputy to the regional director before being appointed. He also served as the WHO representative for Vietnam from 2012 to 2014 and was honored with Vietnam's "For the People's Health" medal in 2014 for his

significant contributions to public health in Vietnam.

The CNMI, Guam, and American Samoa all fall under the responsibility of the U.S., as it is part of the WHO's Pacific Region.

The World Health Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. Its primary role is to direct international health within the UN's system and to lead partner in global health responses.



Kinpachi Restaurant president and Saipan Awaodori team organizer Misako Kamata, center, holds up the commendation given to her last Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, in recognition of her role in promoting the Japanese culture in the United States at a ceremony last Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

IVA MAURIN

JAPAN

From Page 1

nese language and manners among the youth in the CNMI.

Kamata created the Saipan branch of the Tokyo Koen-

Ji Tensui-Ren in 2007, and taught Awaodori and Japanese language and manners to over 200 youth on the island. She also organized an Awaodori team composed of young children that participates in the Liberation Day event held in

July of every year, as well as many other cultural events.

Kamata has also actively given support after the East Japan earthquake and Kumamoto earthquake.

Kamata herself credits Iwanami Yukihiro of the Koen-Ji

Awaodori Association in Tokyo for helping her organize the local Awaodori team.

"Without one key person, I would have never led these things today," Kamata said. "Every year, he accepts our children in Tokyo. Also, they

send their team to Saipan and, together with the children here, perform in the CNMI too. ...Without him, I cannot be here today."

Kamata also acknowledged everyone who have been a part of the Awaodori team's progress since they began 13 years ago, and asked for continued support. "Everybody who has been a part of our progress and of our movement, please con-

tinue to watch us and guide us and help us. Let us continue the CNMI and Japan's tight relationship for the children."

Kamata was one of 175 individuals living outside of Japan to be awarded the Foreign Minister's Commendation this year.

All in all, 206 individuals and 63 groups were given the commendation this year. (Iva Maurin)

BILL

From Page 1

the Marpi area, specifically the Grotto, Banzai Cliff Lookout, Bird Island Lookout, Kalabera Cave, Last Command Post, and Suicide Cliff, to create what would be known as the Marpi Public Parks.

The Marpi Public Parks, according to the legislation, will be operated by DLNR as a non-profit system, and includes mandating DLNR to set up rules and regulations no later than 90 days after enactment of the bill for the

tourist sites as well as coordinate with the Department of Public Works for the design and development of the sites, which, according to the bill, includes building and maintaining restrooms, and creating parking, lighting, and safety measures.

Saipan residents are exempted from paying the entrance fees associated with entering the area.

"The legislation will develop and generate revenue for the CNMI," said Benavente in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*. "[The revenue] will also help beautify the sites [by

funding] the security, maintenance, and the entire upkeep of the park."

Benavente noted that he envisions a toll-gate style that would maximize revenue at \$10 per head.

That call would still be made by DLNR, but Benavente said he sees the one-time payment of \$10 as ideal for the value that tourists get at the sites.

"We will finally be able to generate revenue from our prime tourist areas and reinvest back into the park and tourism as a whole," Babauta told *Saipan Tribune*. "This bill will not only generate

revenue, but it will create jobs, enhance our beautiful Marianas, and improve the visitor, and resident, experience."

All revenue collected, according to the legislation, will go to a new Marpi Public Parks Fund Account. The monies in the account will strictly be used for the administration, maintenance, improvement, supervision, and security of the sites.

According to Benavente, the Grotto sees at least 1,000 tourists a day, translating to roughly \$3.6 million a year in possible revenue.

VICTIM

From Page 1

RAV4 and the owner's identity was not disclosed. Eyewitnesses stated that they saw a vehicle drive off the cliff line at Banzai Cliff late Saturday.

DPS denied rumors of a victim being found and that they're just not releasing the name pending a next-of-kin notification.

On the first day of the search last Saturday, DPS officers noticed damage to World War II monuments and car parts around the cliff line. Officers also noticed items that

appeared to be clothing and a bag drifting in the current.

DPS and DFEMS rescue boats were deployed and searched the area Saturday night, but were called off due to rough waters and it was already getting dark.

Search efforts continued on Sunday, with DPS divers twice scouring the waters off the cliff, while DPS and DFEMS rescue boats coordinated with the USCG and the U.S. Navy.

Banzai Cliff was closed off Sunday as DPS, DFEMS, USCG, and the U.S. Navy continued the search for the victim.

Rescue teams were able to retrieve the vehicle from the waters, but no victim was found inside it. The search was called off at 5pm Sunday, with no signs of the victim.

Search efforts were continued yesterday, with the DPS boats *Impact* and *Zodiac 3* conducting the search with DPS' Search and Rescue Unit. The search was conducted further north and toward Wing Beach, still with no victim found.

A video of items floating on the water—some clothing and a bag—surface on Facebook and other messaging applications last Saturday night. The

case remains ongoing and searches will continue for a victim.

This incident is the second case of a vehicle driving off Banzai Cliff in two years. Back in 2017, a woman sat by the edge of Banzai Cliff in Marpi, got into her rented car, then drove off the cliff. Police managed to find her body and she was pronounced dead. She was later identified as Jilian He, 22, and was described as "a local Chinese female."

Banzai Cliff was also the scene of massive suicides of Japanese and local residents jumping to their deaths at the close of World War II.

OPA

From Page 1

complished work during the previous year, among others.

In the report that it released yesterday, OPA said that 62 of the 126 complaints it got last fiscal year were either unsubstantiated or the OPA lacked jurisdiction over the matters concerned. Twenty-six were referred to the appropriate agency for disciplinary action, while three complaints were referred to the U.S. Attorney's Office and five were referred to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General.

By the end of fiscal year 2019, OPA had 31 ongoing or pending cases.

In comparison, for the end of fiscal year 2018, OPA had only 15 cases ongoing or pending.

The previous version of the report for fiscal year 2018 noted that, while they received significantly fewer complaints, majority of those complaints were either unsubstantiated or out of OPA's jurisdiction.

"...124 [complaints] were found to be unsubstantiated or OPA lacked jurisdiction while 28 were referred to the appropriate agency for disciplinary action. Four were referred to the U.S. Attorney's Office while three were referred to the Office of the Attorney General," the report previously noted.

In fiscal year 2019, OPA reported that they were able to have staff attend eight training sessions: the 2019 Uniform Guidance and Government and Public Sector Executive Training' Lakewood Experience 2019 in Lakewood, Colorado; Graduate School USA's Citizen-Centric Reporting and Quick Response Auditing by Drummond Khan; Automatic Private IP Addressing 2019 Conference in Tumon, Guam; Interviews and Interrogations/Institute of Police Technology and Management; Contract and Grant Fraud Training Program/Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency; Public Corruption Investigations Training Program/Inspector General; and the National Computer Forensics Institute/U.S. Secret Service.

Ayuyu wins People's Choice in IT&E Song Challenge

Saipan songwriter and musician Nikkie Ayuyu has won People's Choice in the IT&E Song Challenge, according to a company statement yesterday.

His song, *Life in Motion*, received close to 9,000 votes. Some 20,000 residents of the CNMI and Guam voted for People's Choice in the IT&E Song Challenge.

Now 24 years old, Ayuyu has been making and playing music since he was in the seventh grade. His instruments of choice are the guitar and ukulele and he dabbles in the keyboard and bass.

For Ayuyu, music is a great form of self-expression. He tries to write music as often as he can, letting the moment guide him toward making a great piece.

"For me, it's all about the moment," he said. "When I try too hard to write music, usually I don't end up finishing it at that time. Sometimes it takes a long time to finish one song. When music comes to me, it keeps coming. But when it stops, it stops. But that isn't a bad thing. Music takes time."

Ayuyu was awarded \$500 in cash and a \$300 gift card for musical equipment. Ayuyu

will also get the opportunity to perform at an IT&E sponsored event to be announced in the future.

A panel of judges comprising IT&E and music experts in the CNMI and Guam selected the Top 8 finalists to compete for People's Choice. Community judges of the IT&E Song Challenge were Harold Easton, faculty member of Speech and Drama at Marianas High School and board member of the Friends of the Arts; Victorious Falan, radio personality at i94; Dr. Randall Johnson, professor of Music and division chair at the University of Guam; Max Ronquillo, Jr., music director and chief band master, Omega of the Guam Territorial Band; and Gary Sword, radio host at KKMP.

The other finalists were Frank Candaso, Travis, Kaliga, Ellery Sablan, Benny and Friends, Coco + The Way Cool Heroes, DC Crew, and PROVIDENCE.

"We'd like to thank our community judges, the thousands of residents that voted in support of our local artists and the musicians that produced songs for the IT&E Song Challenge," said Rubyjane

Buhain-Redila, Brand and Public Relations manager at IT&E. "The response from all is a testament to the universality of music and we're glad to provide a platform that showcases their talent."

People's Choice voting took place from Oct. 7 to 13. The IT&E Song Challenge was launched this past September to find its next theme. By inviting the community to participate, IT&E sought to find a song that represents the company and the people it serves in the CNMI and Guam. **(IT&E)**



Nikkie Ayuyu, right, won People's Choice in the IT&E Song Challenge. Pictured from left are Janice Tenorio, customer service manager and government relations manager at IT&E; and Ayuyu. **IT&E**

Yap governor: Arrests are made in shooting murder of acting AG

Arrests have been made in the murder of an acting attorney general of one of the states of the Federated States of Micronesia.

In a statement yesterday, Yap Gov. Henry S. Falan announced that arrests were made yesterday in the murder of acting attorney general Rachelle Bergeron, who was fatally shot at her residence on Yap last Oct. 14, 2019.

The statement did not identify the person or persons who've been arrested.

"The next stage in the investigation will be the court proceedings as [Yap] moves toward the final stage of conviction," Falan said in the statement. "No names will be issued by the authorities at this time. We will keep the public informed at the appropriate time as the court case moves ahead."

Bergeron first arrived in Yap in 2015 to work as an assistant attorney general. She became acting attorney general to the FSM island in January, and was a member of the State Bar of California. Bergeron went to the University of Florida College of Law.

An Associated Press story about the shooting said that Bergeron's husband was inside the couple's house Mon-

day night baking brownies with a local child the couple was helping care for when somebody fired three shots at Bergeron as she pulled up and opened the back of her Subaru hatchback, killing both her and her dog, said one friend, Amos Collins.

Bergeron was pronounced dead on arrival at the Yap Memorial Hospital on the evening of Oct. 14, 2019. Reports note that she was shot at about 7pm after taking her dog out.

"... [Governor Falan] expresses his solemn gratitude and heartfelt thanks to the joint investigating team of the Yap State Police Department, Office of

the Attorney General and their external partners, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the FSM Department of Justice for their hard work and dedication during the past two weeks to bring this case to a close. [Falan] also would like to thank the community and citizens of Yap for their contributions, support, patience, and prayers during this stressful time. May God bless us all," a statement from the Yap government stated.

The killing has shocked the tiny island of Yap, which is home to 11,000 people. **(Erwin Encinares)**



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Autumn Festival



The Autumn Festival, hosted by the Japanese Society of the Northern Mariana Islands, drew a huge crowd at the Paseo de Marianas in Garapan last Saturday. People enjoyed watching traditional Japanese demonstrations, songs, music, martial arts, and dances. Japanese foods were sold. Children had fun playing at many game booths. Skymark Airlines Inc. also offered three roundtrip tickets for the raffle's grand prize.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

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THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division required for each set.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on **November 7, 2019**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 13, 2019** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S



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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP20-CHCC/CGC/HTP-002

NEW SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 01, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM



**“HEALTHY TRANSITIONS PROGRAM –
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COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

INVITATION TO BID
ITB20-CHCC/ELC/BEH-001

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**“BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH’S
LABORATORY UNIT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT”**

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CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP20-CHCC/CGC/HTP-001

NEW SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 01, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM

**“HEALTHY TRANSITIONS PROGRAM –
OFFICE SPACE LEASE”**

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Flower crown princess Ashley Reiko Pangelinan

By IVA MAURIN

iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

"With flower crowns, when you give it, you're giving your love."

And perhaps, love is what today's Spotlight feature holds most dear. In talking with Ashley Reiko Pangelinan, her love radiates—for her family, especially her grandmother, for her garden, for her furry babies, for her art.

Saipan-born and -raised Pangelinan spreads love by holding tropical flower crown workshops on the island. She considers the craft as flower artistry, creating one's own art in flower form.

Pangelinan learned the flower crown craft in Hawaii, where she spent 11 years of her adolescent life.

"I consider my second home Hawaii, so I am also bringing the aloha here," Pangelinan said.

While aloha is more commonly heard as a greeting, it is a concept and a way of living that has multiple meanings, including love, affection, and sharing of life energy.

"I just wanted to teach what I could do to others so they can also do it on their own. With flower crowns and leis, when you give it, you are giving your love. Especially if you make it yourself, it is great to give it," she said.

Her flower crown art is also a tribute to her grandmother, the late Maria Villagomez Pangelinan, who passed away in 2014. Pangelinan learned a lot from her grandmother.

"Flowers, in general, remind me of my grandma. My grandma was all about gardening and orchids and everything else," she said. "When I do wear a flower crown, it just reminds me of my grandma."

The late Pangelinan was well known in the community, and was a coordinator for the Santa Lourdes Church, where she also did flower arrangements.

"I wish my grandma is still alive to see what I'm doing now," Pangelinan said. "I learned a lot from her."

With her grandmother as her queen, Saipan's flower crown princess, aside from the flow-

ers she grows in her home in Mt. Tapochau,

also sources her flowers from her grandmother's garden.

"My grandma left her garden to the family," Pangelinan said. "I have been just utilizing her garden and, since her place is all the way in Kagman, I brought some of the flowers and I grew [them too] at my place. I am hoping that it's going to turn out as great as my grandma's garden."

Pangelinan continues her grandmother's legacy of spreading her love for flowers through her business, Pualani Crown, where she beautifully handcrafts, as well as teach people to create, flower crowns.

While her seven cats love flowers and her puppy likes to eat flowers, Pangelinan is the only one now in the family who is into flowers.

"They are proud and they

see my grandma in me."

For those who want to give love through, and learn more about flower crowns, contact Pangelinan at pualanicrown@gmail.com.

Ashley Reiko Pangelinan, third from left, and some of her students wear the tropical flower crowns they created, after the Tropical Flower Crown Workshop at Marianas Creations last Saturday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



SPOTLIGHT



Saipan-born and -raised Pangelinan spreads love on the island through her flower crowns. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



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Honor Society Induction

PHOTOS By NMC



Thirty students from the Northern Marianas College were sworn in last Friday, Oct. 25, 2019, as members and officers of the Beta Lambda Psi Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, pledging to distinguish themselves through academic excellence by contributing to the community and the Commonwealth through various community service and leadership activities.



Charlotte Cepeda, NMC dean of Learning and Student Success, welcomes the inductees.



Interim NMC president Frankie Eliptico delivers his remarks.



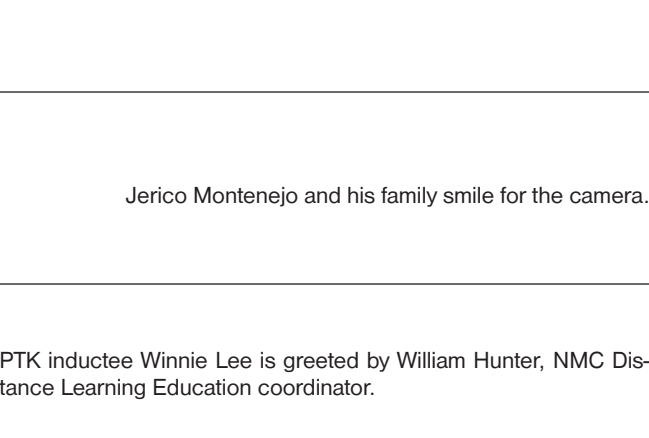
Yuri Fukushima is congratulated by NMC officials.



Clarence Tenorio Jr. is congratulated by Charlotte Cepeda, NMC dean of Learning and Student Success.



Angela Bernal poses for a photo with her family.



Jerico Montenejo and his family smile for the camera.



PTK inductee Winnie Lee is greeted by William Hunter, NMC Distance Learning Education coordinator.



Takeshi Katori, first row, second from left, chief priest of the Katori Shrine in Tokyo, joins CNMI officials and members of the Japanese Society of the Northern Mariana Islands after presiding over a ceremony commemorating the 34th anniversary of the construction of the Katori Shrine on Saipan last Saturday at the Sugar King Park in Garapan.

IVA MAURIN

Rite celebrates anniversary of Katori Shrine in Garapan

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI welcomed families from the Katori city in Japan, who came to participate in a ceremony that commemorates the 75th anniversary of the reconstruction of the Katori Shrine on Saipan last Saturday at the Sugar King Park in Garapan.

The original shrine on Saipan, which is the only Katori shrine built outside of Japan, was built during the Japanese era in the CNMI in 1914. It was destroyed by a World War II fire in 1944.

Japanese Society of Northern Marianas president Masa-tezuka said the ceremony is very important for the society and the Japanese people on the island because this year also marks the 105th year since the Katori Shrine was built on Saipan. The Katori Shrine in Japan itself is considered one of the oldest in history.

Last Saturday, the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas was joined by CNMI officials and other members of the public for the Katori Shrine ceremony, which was presided over by Takeshi Katori, chief priest of the Katori Shrine in Japan.

Speaking through a translator, Katori said they are here to promote goodwill with the people of the CNMI government and with Saipan itself.

"[There are] very historic ties between Japan and [the] CNMI," Tezuka said. "Last year, due to the [Super Typhoon] Yutu, they [families from Katori] could not come here. They got stuck in Guam, and then went back to Japan. So this year, we are very happy to have this ceremony again, to form a relationship between [the] CNMI and Japan."

The shrine represents a place of prayer for peace and prosperity.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang said he always looks forward to seeing the families from Katori city every year.

"This is very sacred for us.

It creates a lot of friendship and a spiritual prayer for all those that have gone during [World War II] and all those families, who are here every year," Apatang said.

With Skymark Airlines Inc. beginning operations this November, both Apatang and Tezuka are positive that relations between the CNMI and Japan will only grow stronger.

"Mayor Apatang is working very hard and is supportive. He is also trying to make sister relationship with the Katori City in Chiba [Prefecture]. This is good news... Saipan," Tezuka said.

Apatang is hopeful that with the Skymark flying back and forth soon, the CNMI can get more tourists from Japan. "I am still trying to create the sister city with the Katori mayor, and we are looking forward to him coming here next year in May. So we are looking forward to that."



SAIPAN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Saipan

NOTICE OF REGULAR SHEFA BOARD MEETING

In accordance with 1 CMC § 9901 et seq., as amended, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance 26th, October 30th, 2019 at 9:30 am (continuation from September 2019) at the SHEFA Office 2nd Conference Room, Floor, CTC Building, Oleaj, Beach Road, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. Preliminary Matters
 1. Roll Call
 2. Adoption of Agenda
 3. Adoption of Minutes from August 28th, 2019
- II. Public Comment
- III. Reports
 1. Administrator
 2. Chair
 3. Committee
 - a. Committee on Awards
 - b. Committee on Appeal/Deferments/Forbearance
 - c. Committee on Policy and Procedures
 - d. Committee on Program and Development
 - e. Committee of Fiscal, Legislative and Community Affairs
- IV. Old Business
 1. Amendment to SHEFA Bylaws
 2. Saipan Local Law 21-5
- V. New Business
 1. H.L.B. No. 21-28 (amended)
 2. FY 2019 Application Status
- VI. Executive Session
- VII. Misc.
- VIII. Next Meeting
- IX. Adjournment

Note: Meeting may continue the following day should the need arise.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR JOINT REGION MARIANAS-ADMINISTERED AND LEASED LANDS ON GUAM, TINIAN, AND FARALLON DE MEDINILLA

Pursuant to Section 102 (2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508) implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA, the United States (U.S.) Department of Navy (DON) gives notice that a Final Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) for Joint Region Marianas (JRM)-administered and leased lands on Guam, Tinian, and Farallon de Medinilla has been prepared, and an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to evaluate the potential impacts on the human environment of the INRMP implementation. Based upon the EA, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been prepared and a determination made that preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required.

The purpose of the 2019 JRM INRMP is to revise management of natural resources on JRM administered and leased lands as described in the 2013 JRM INRMP to include species listed under the Endangered Species Act since 2013 and to implement an approach for natural resources management that is consistent with the Sikes Act, as amended (16 U.S. Code [USC] 670a), and the most recent Department of Defense (DoD) and DON policy and guidance regarding INRMPs. Both the INRMP and the natural resources management programs must include a management approach consistent with mission support (as defined in 10 USC section 5062), multipurpose use, integration, ecosystem- or landscape-level management, and environmental compliance and stewardship objectives.

The EA evaluates the potential environmental impacts on topography, geology, and soils; water resources; cultural resources; terrestrial biological resources; marine biological resources; land use; submerged land use; socioeconomics; and environmental justice associated with implementing the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative.

- The Proposed Action is to implement the 2019 JRM INRMP. This alternative represents an update to management of resources found on JRM-administered and leased lands with the intent to provide a conservation benefit to existing and recently federally listed species.
- Under the No Action Alternative, the Proposed Action would not occur, natural resources would continue to be managed as characterized in the 2013 JRM INRMP, and JRM would continue to implement applicable regulatory requirements. This alternative represents the status quo and is used to analyze the consequences of not undertaking the Proposed Action. The No Action Alternative would not meet the purpose and need for the Proposed Action; however, as required by NEPA, the No Action Alternative is carried forward for analysis in this EA.

The INRMP, EA, and FONSI are available for review at the Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library, 254 Martyr Street, Hagatna, Guam; Dededo Public Library, West Santa Barbara Avenue, Dededo, Guam; Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Insatto Street, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI); as well as Tinian Public Library, San Jose, Tinian, CNMI.

Written questions or comments may be submitted to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas
Attn: EV2, Conservation and Planning
PSC 455, Box 211
FPO AP 96540-1000
Email: w-gu-navfac-ev2-gs@fe.navy.mil

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

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EDITORIAL

Will California ever learn anything from its wildfires?

To anyone who's followed the news of wildfires in California in recent years—or this week's Tick fire—the 200-page report commissioned by Los Angeles County officials on last year's Woolsey fire will sound terrifyingly familiar.

The Woolsey fire, which burned nearly 100,000 acres from Oak Park to Malibu, was bigger, faster and more destructive than anyone expected, according to the county's report. Even in a region accustomed to and prepared for fires, the blaze shocked and overwhelmed authorities. There simply weren't enough fire engines or water-dropping aircraft to match the scale and speed of the fire. Residents, so used to firefighters saving their homes, complained that they couldn't get an engine to come to their street. And people fleeing the fire were trapped in clogged evacuation routes.

In the end, the Woolsey fire joined the growing list of monstrous wildfires in California that are apparently becoming the norm. Five of California's deadliest wildfires have occurred during the last two years. And six of the most destructive wildfires, in terms of structures lost, occurred over the last 10 years.

Now Los Angeles County is dealing with a new fire in the Santa Clarita area that has prompted the evacuation of at least 40,000 people. And like last year, state fire resources are stretched thin as agencies fight another conflagration in Northern California and additional wildfires throughout Southern California.

It should be crystal clear by now that California needs to make major changes in the way communities prepare for these inevitable blazes. The warming climate is creating conditions that fuel more devastating wildfires as more and more people are moving into the wildland-urban interface, where homes and offices abut foothills, forests or other open land.

Yet lawmakers at all levels of government still refuse to fully grapple with the challenges posed by the new normal. Can we make existing homes in fire zones safer and if so, how? What responsibility and obligations do residents in high-fire-risk areas bear for their own safety and that of their property? Are there some areas where it's too dangerous to rebuild? Why, when we know the danger and the cost, do we keep allowing new subdivisions to march deeper into high-fire-risk areas?

Instead, the focus has been on firefighting, equipment and brush clearance. The county's post-Woolsey fire review was requested by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl to help agencies understand what happened and how to minimize damage in future events. The report lays out dozens of practical recommendations for government agencies to better coordinate and respond to the next disaster. It's a smart exercise. County leaders are talking about a tax increase to expand the fire department.

But the report only briefly touches on the harder policy decisions that we ignore at our collective peril: "We cannot expect that all population growth in Very High or High Fire Hazard Severity areas can be protected simply by increasing resiliency to wildfire and by adding more fire engines," the report says.

See **WILDFIRES** on Next Page

Facebook could do to banks what it did to newspapers

On Wednesday, Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook's chief executive, testified about his company's cryptocurrency project at a hearing held by the House Financial Services Committee. In his testimony, Zuckerberg tried to reassure Congress that Facebook's Libra cryptocurrency would square the circle between financial inclusion and regulatory adherence, consumer privacy and proactive fraud detection. The one thing he didn't manage to address is whether the world really wants a crypto offering from the social media giant.

Cryptocurrency has acquired an unseemly status where any use is automatically assumed to have nefarious ends. It doesn't help that the most prominent example, Bitcoin, has been implicated in some horrific criminal conduct. At the same time, a lack of mainstream adoption gives cryptocurrency few redeeming advocates. No surprise, then, that regulators regard Facebook's proposal with suspicion.

It's not that legitimate businesses don't want crypto; it's that their customers don't want to use it for payment. When buying stuff on the internet, consumers will choose the payment method that imposes the lowest transaction cost on themselves—that's generally the credit card option, which allows deferred payment as well as the accrual of miles or points. An online business that refuses to accept credit cards will always lose out to a competitor that does.

But what if you don't have any competitors? Facebook enjoys quasi-monopoly status when it comes to consumer attention, controlling the reach and distribution of content across its network of users. (So far, 46 attorneys general have joined a New York-led antitrust investigation of the company and its dominance as a social media platform.)

As the driver of over one-fourth of web traffic, Facebook has a lot of influence over who sees what on the internet. And with over 2.3 billion monthly active users around the world, it's not a stretch to imagine that the company could have similar influence over who pays whom, and how.

Mark Zuckerberg's Congressional testimony makes it clear that he takes inspiration from China, where WeChat serves as a one-stop portal to the greater internet. There, users conduct their banking, shopping, and bill payments without ever leaving the app. The ability to control users' economic interactions comes with the privilege of deciding the medium of exchange. If it follows suit, Facebook may end up looking like another familiar monopolist—our own government, which creates the national currency we use to pay our taxes.

It's no wonder regulators and central banks view the Libra project as a threat to the international monetary system. In a re-

By **ELAINE OU**
Bloomberg News

Elaine Ou is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. She is a blockchain engineer at Global Financial Access in San Francisco. Previously she was a lecturer in the electrical and information engineering department at the University of Sydney.



cent report, the G7 Working Group warns that global cryptocurrencies could undermine cross-jurisdictional efforts to combat illicit finance. All international transactions using U.S. dollars currently clear through the New York Federal Reserve, where they can be monitored and stopped if deemed unsavory. Previously, members of the Senate Banking Committee have expressed concern over Facebook's ability to handle economic sanctions on foreign regimes.

Zuckerberg has promised that Calibra, Facebook's payment app, will include robust compliance systems to fulfill regulatory obligations. However, the greater risk is that Calibra will go above and beyond its regulatory duty. Facebook already employs a more restrictive speech code than legally required—the platform blocks various forms of hate speech, harassment, misinformation and inauthentic behavior. Publishers must accept Facebook's opaque Terms of Service or risk not being seen at all. It's one thing to deny politically incorrect figures the ability to share inflammatory content; it's another thing to leave them economically isolated.

In a competitive market, those who disagree with Facebook's terms could simply take their business elsewhere. The Libra Association currently includes twenty-one member companies, after some early members dropped out. If Facebook mimics WeChat in establishing itself as a go-to payment portal, those former members may have no choice but to return to the cartel.

Global regulators are so worried about preserving their own monopoly status that they've forgotten that monopolies have victims. Just look at what Facebook did to publishers. When Facebook emerged as the arbiter of eyeballs, publishers lost control of their audiences and ad revenue, and consumers ended up with a barrage of clickbait. If Facebook disintermediates the banking system, it could take control of the economic relationship between businesses and their customers, with greater restrictions on financial transactions than ever before. It's almost enough to make you wish for a decentralized currency.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Can the diaries of ordinary people be used to bridge cultural divides?

By JOSHUA CONRAD JACKSON and MICHELE GELFAND
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Most people keep their diaries hidden. They put them under pillows and in drawers. Some write their diary entries in invisible ink, and keep the pages under lock and key. Diaries are personal and private for a reason—they represent our innermost thoughts.

Yet we managed to persuade people from different countries—the U.S. and Pakistan—to write down the mundane and humanizing details of their everyday lives and then share them with on another. We wanted to see if diary entries could break down prejudices and bridge cultural divides.

For 70 years, social psychologists have searched for the most effective way to break down prejudice. The search is as old as the discipline, which was born as a means of studying and reducing the discrimination and brutality people witnessed during World War II.

Researchers have forced conflicting groups to work together to fix a broken faucet and produce customized radio programs that show different ethnic groups cooperating with each other. Researchers have subliminally primed white Americans with associations between “black” and “good,” hoping that the connection would take.

Previously, we had found that hostility between Pakistanis and Americans is mostly derived from media-driven misconceptions. In reality, the Pakistanis and Americans we enlisted for our study knew little about each other’s daily lives. Diaries had the potential to change that, we thought.

Before we began our research four years ago, our University of Maryland team tested whether people would feel comfortable sharing personal details for a scientific experiment. Our sampling of American and Pakistani diary writers allayed our fears, writing rich, vivid descriptions of their everyday lives.

In the primary study that followed, we assigned people to read

these diary entries. A Pakistani collaborator helped us gather 100 of her fellow citizens through fliers and classroom announcements in Islamabad and Abbottabad, the last city Osama bin Laden called home. In the U.S. we recruited 100 people in the Maryland area.

Before the diary reading commenced, participants took a survey with troubling results that were consistent with previous surveys administered by others. Many Americans wrongly thought Pakistan was a Middle Eastern country (it is in South Asia), and that Pakistanis were violent and excessively constrained by their culture. Many Pakistanis said they thought Americans were immoral and only sought to dominate other religions and cultures.

We wanted to see whether reading diary entries from another culture would reduce the prejudice and negative stereotypes expressed. Subjects were randomly assigned to read entries from their culture or a foreign culture.

The similarities between the American and Pakistani diaries were striking.

Two women in their early 20s, one from the U.S. and one from Pakistan, each wrote about spending time with family, and enjoying meals and movies. It seemed like they might be friends if they met.

There were also important cross-cultural differences. Another Pakistani diary writer described waking up early for prayer every day and attending religious classes at her university. When she misremembered a Quran passage, her teacher made her stand in front of the class for 10 minutes. Conversely, an American described spending the night with her boyfriend and drinking beers with friends—which would be taboo in Pakistan.

But the diary keepers from different cultures shared a common set of concerns: emotions that define us as humans, regardless of culture. At the end of a week, American participants were again asked what they thought of Pakistanis, and vice-versa.

The results, to be published in the journal *Behavioral Science and Policy*, showed that before-and-after differences often

reflected a more positive and tolerant perspective. A Pakistani woman who had read American diaries wrote, “Americans may be different than us in moral and religious values, but the life of a student ... is very similar to the life of a student here.”

An American woman who had read a Pakistani man’s diary said, “We have a lot of similarities We both attend college, play sports, having the freedom to eat and hang out with our friends, etc.”

An American man who took in a Pakistani woman’s words wrote: “They are hardworking and selfless. They care about the greater good of their society, and make sacrifices for others.”

Those who read diaries kept by people who share their same culture rarely changed their attitudes. One Pakistani who had read a fellow citizen’s entries described the “free” American environment as “the root cause of common evil.”

The foreign diary readers also appeared to speak positively of that person’s culture. Participants often reported more familiarity, similarity, positivity and closeness with each other’s cultures.

In our experiment, the perceived “cultural distance” between Pakistan and the United States lessened between those who read diaries kept by members of another culture. This sense of reduced cultural distance led Americans to see Pakistanis as less violent and freer, and Pakistanis to see Americans as more moral and less ignorant of other cultures.

Prejudice reduction studies must be repeatedly tested and replicated to make sure their effects are reliable. We plan to do that with larger and more representative groups. Diaries hold great promise as a way to bring cultures together, providing unfiltered access to the everyday lives of those we may know of only through the media.

Joshua Conrad Jackson is a doctoral student in psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Michele Gelfand is a distinguished professor of psychology at the University of Maryland.



A firefighter from San Matteo helps fight the Kincade Fire in Sonoma County, Calif., on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019.

WILDFIRES

From Page 10

Of course existing homes have to become more resilient in the face of wind-driven blazes. And California may need to invest in more firefighting personnel and equipment to deal with the worsening fires. But it is folly to think that stricter building codes and more fire engines can eliminate the danger we create by building and rebuilding in high-fire-risk areas.






Lawmakers can’t necessarily stop people from rebuilding on land they own, given the Fifth Amendment’s protections for property owners. But California could buy out owners to prevent them from rebuilding in high-risk areas. Cities and state agencies are talking about “managed retreat”—or relocating threatened homes—from communities facing coastal erosion or flooding. Why is there not a similar policy discussion in areas that repeatedly burn?

Nor is there any serious discussion of limiting new development in high fire-risk areas. In fact, local leaders in L.A. County, San Diego County and throughout the state are still approving massive new subdivisions on hillsides in the urban fringe—exactly the areas that are most likely to burn and burn again. And for existing homes, there are few, if any, requirements for home hardening or maintenance, and little assistance for homeowners who want to do it voluntarily.

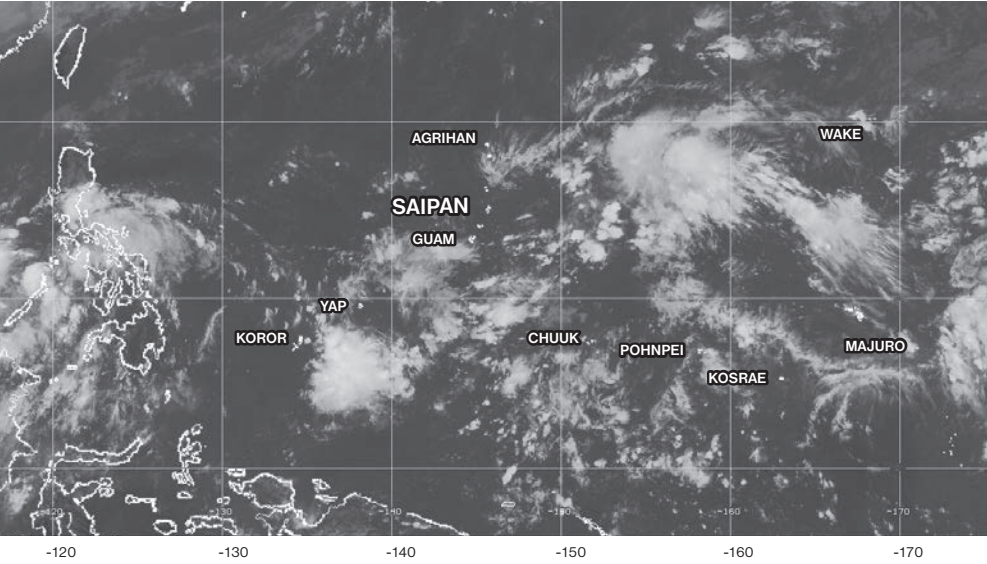
Gov. Gavin Newsom has dismissed the idea of blocking development in fire-prone areas, saying such restrictions would be counter to California’s “pioneering spirit.” Perhaps. But the pioneers didn’t face subdivisions aflame or tens of thousands of neighbors trying to evacuate at the same time.

The death and destruction caused by recent wildfires should have served as reminder enough that California can’t keep sprawling into dangerous wildfire terrain. So far, California leaders have refused to act. What will it take?

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
									
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	
87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°	87°	77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 12:24 PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A dry trade-wind pattern will carry on through this evening, but the trough to the east will bring increasing clouds and isolated thunderstorms after midnight. Showers and thunderstorms have been widespread and heavy overnight, likely being aided by westerly wind shear aloft. By tonight, however, upper-level winds will weaken and, while increasing showers are expected, models show showers will not be quite as heavy. After a brief reduction in showers Wednesday, another surface trough will bring more showers Thursday. In the longer-term, models show a monsoon trough trying to develop across Western Micronesia next weekend and into the following week that could interrupt the current trade-wind pattern.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°			
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°			
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°			
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°			
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 75°			
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 75°			
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°			

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Windy	61° / 55°			
Beijing	Sunny	72° / 41°			
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	82° / 73°			
Honolulu	Showers	85° / 73°			
London	Showers	63° / 54°			
Los Angeles	Sunny	73° / 52°			
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°			
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	81° / 64°			
Miami	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°			
New York	Showers	63° / 59°			
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	73° / 61°			
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	64° / 52°			
Busan	Partly Cloudy	66° / 48°			
Rome	Showers	73° / 59°			
Salem	Showers	72° / 67°			
San Francisco	Sunny	67° / 48°			
Seoul	Sunny	64° / 45°			
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	70° / 59°			
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	67° / 54°			



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
2:11 AM	LOW TIDE		-0.22
8:34 AM	HIGH TIDE		1.97
2:31 PM	LOW TIDE		0.68
7:55 PM	HIGH TIDE		1.98

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:11 AM	5:49 PM
Wednesday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Thursday	6:12 AM	5:48 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:48 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:58 AM	6:53 PM	-
Wednesday	7:59 AM	7:43 PM	-
Thursday	8:58 AM	8:35 PM	-
Friday	9:56 AM	9:29 PM	-
Saturday	10:52 AM	10:23 PM	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 27, 2019									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily		UA174	7:30am	8:10am	Daily	
UA105	6:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4		UA104	4:50pm	5:30pm	2, 4	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
7C3451	3:20am	6:30am	Daily		7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	
					7C3452	10:05pm	2:30am+1	3	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
TW308	2:05am	6:05am	Daily		OZ6233	8:00am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6	
OZ626	2:10am	6:10am	1		OZ623	8:55am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7	
OZ626	2:50am	6:25am	3, 7		7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily	
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 4, 5, 6		OZ625	7:30pm	1:00am+1	7	
7C3403	4:35am	8:35am	Daily		TW307	7:45pm	1:05am+1	Daily	
OZ6243	3:20pm	7:10pm	2, 4, 6		OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
OZ624	3:50pm	7:40pm	1, 3, 5, 7		7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily	
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily						
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7		3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)					HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN				
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1		JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4	
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4		JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6		3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)					BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN				
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7		MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:35am	1 via ICN		UA184/174	12:40am	8:07am+1	3, 6 via GUM	
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	Daily via GUM		OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR		UA192/174	10:40pm	8:07am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	
					UA184/174	10:55pm	8:07am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	
					OZ704/6233	11:45pm	1:20pm+1	1, 3, 5 via ICN	
					OZ704/623	11:45pm	2:30pm+1	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)					HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN		OZ746/6233	12:30am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN	
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ746/623	12:30am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1		OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7		OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
OZ6243/9661	3:20pm	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN		UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7	
OZ624/9661	3:50pm	11:15pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN		UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6	
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)									
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.									
SAIPAN TO ROTA					1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily		1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily		1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily	
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily		1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	
					1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily	
					1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily	
ROTA TO SAIPAN					1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily	
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily		1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily	
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily						
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily		TINIAN TO SAIPAN				
					FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
ROTA TO GUAM					2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily		2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	
					2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	
GUAM TO ROTA					2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily	
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily		2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	
					2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	
SAIPAN TO TINIAN					2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily		2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily		2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	

Business

Saipan Snaps now available in Halloween-themed containers

By **BEA CABRERA**

beacabrera@saipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Local product Saipan Snaps, known for their delicious ginger spiced cookies, has released their special promo in time for Halloween.

People can now get a hold of Saipan Snaps in Halloween containers to give away as treats for children going for trick or treating around the community or for regular cookie lovers that will find the packaging cute and colorful.

According to Saipan

Snaps owner Jill Arenovski, she gets a lot of requests for custom orders for birthdays, weddings, baby showers, and other occasions.

"I've combined my love for paper crafting with my Saipan Snaps business and enjoy the opportunity to make special packaging for our cookies," she said.

"I've teamed up with Marianas Creations to offer special Halloween treats for just a few days and so our Saipan Snaps are now packaged in Halloween treat containers. It is like getting a special custom order



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Saipan Snaps in Halloween-themed containers are now available at Marianas Creations.

but faster and the customer can buy as many or few as they like. If we have a good success with this Marianas Creations and I are already talking about specials for Christmas, Valentine's, and more," she added.

Saipan Snaps flavors—Original Ginger Snaps and Sweet Heat Ginger Snaps—are inside the special Halloween containers.

"Most are filled with the Sweet Heat flavor. For those who haven't tried Sweet Heat, it's the original ginger snap recipe with local hot pepper added," Arenovski said.

"When you take the first bite it tastes sweet like the



Saipan Snaps' Original Ginger Snaps and Sweet Heat Ginger Snaps are inside the special Halloween containers.

original cookie and the Sweet Heat sneaks up and gets you and so that is why I say it's first treat and then the trick," she added.

Arenovski believes that celebrating season events is how Saipan Snaps grows with the times.

"Our beautiful island has very few shopping experiences that is why I try to offer something fun and delicious for everyone. Saipan Snaps are handmade on Saipan... we also want tourist to have a 100% locally made item to take back home to share with family and friends and the packaging is tropical and I hope it reflects the beauty of Saipan," she said.

"This is our island home and we want it to grow and prosper. We are so happy that our cookies are loved by the local community and we want our tourists to have the best things to say about Saipan. Each cookie is handmade with no preservatives, just like our grandmothers did it!" she added.

Saipan Snaps in Halloween-themed containers are available only at Marianas Creations located along Micro Beach Road in Garapan. For special orders, contact Jill Arenovski at info@saipansnaps.com

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Average US price of gas drops 4 cents per gallon

CAMARILLO, Calif.

(AP)—The average U.S. price of regular-grade gasoline has dropped 4 cents per gallon (3.8 liters) over the past two weeks to \$2.68. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg of the Lundberg Survey says Sunday that there may be further drops soon, as refinery maintenance season starts to slow and demand for gasoline declines this time of year. The price at the pump is 24 cents lower than it was a year ago. The highest average price in the nation is \$4.71 a gallon in San Francisco. The lowest average is \$2.12 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The average price of diesel is unchanged at \$3.06 per gallon.

Reports: LVMH seeking to buy luxury jeweler Tiffany

WASHINGTON

(AP)—Luxury conglomerate LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton has made an offer to purchase U.S. jeweler Tiffany & Co., according to news reports. LVMH has offered \$120 a share, or about \$14.5 billion, for Tiffany, according to the Wall Street Journal. LVMH made the offer earlier this month, Bloomberg News reported. Representatives of both LVMH and Tiffany declined to comment on the reports. Tiffany shares closed at \$98.55 on Friday. The offer comes as Tiffany has struggled with stagnating sales as China's slowing economy has weighed on spending by Chinese tourists, who make up a substantial portion of luxury spending. The strong U.S. dollar has also made Tiffany products more expensive for overseas consumers. Protests in Hong Kong, Tiffany's

fourth largest market, have also weighed on sales. The purchase would add another household name to LVMH's plethora of upscale brands. It owns fashion names such as Christian Dior, Fendi, and Givenchy as well as watchmaker Tag Heuer. It would also give LVMH a much broader foothold in the United States and broaden its offerings in jewelry.

GM workers ratify contract, ending contentious 40-day strike

ROMULUS, Mich.

(AP)—A contentious 40-day strike that crippled General Motors' U.S. production came to an end Friday as workers approved a new contract with the company. The four-year deal will now be used as a template in bargaining with crosstown rival Ford Motor Co., the union's choice for the next round of bargaining, followed by Fiat Chrysler. GM workers voted 57.2% in favor of the pact, passing it with a vote of 23,389 to 17,501, the union said in a statement. Picket lines came down almost immediately after the vote was announced, and some of the 49,000 striking workers were expected to return to their jobs as early as Friday night. Some skilled trades employees such as electricians and machinists were to enter the plants to get machinery restarted in preparation for production workers to return as early as Saturday. "It was a good vacation, but I guess I've got to go back," joked Paul Daru, a 42-year worker at GM's engine and transmission plant in Romulus, Michigan, near Detroit. "I miss the socializing and stuff like that, seeing the guys, going out on the job and figuring out what the problem is."

UK parties suggest Dec. 9 vote in Brexit gambit

LONDON (AP)—Two British opposition parties on Sunday proposed an even earlier election date than Prime Minister Boris Johnson has offered, trying to force his government to delay a final decision on its European Union divorce deal.

The chess move by the Liberal Democrats and Scottish National Party reflects the volatile political landscape now in Britain.

The ruling Conservatives desperately want a new election to bolster their numbers in Parliament, but they face resistance from the main opposition Labour Party, which fears the country will be unwittingly tricked into crashing out of the European Union without a deal.

The latest election proposal is an effort to force Johnson to delay debate in Parliament on his Brexit withdrawal bill until after any election, depriving him of a possible victory on his trademark issue going into the campaign. It makes Johnson's government choose between holding an election to improve its position in Parliament and its goal of securing

Brexit before that election takes place.

"The challenge is absolutely on (the prime minister), because if he is serious about wanting an election and if he's genuine about having an election before Christmas, then he can back this bill," Liberal Democrat leader Jo Swinson told the BBC on Sunday.

Looming over the political maneuvering is what Johnson and Parliament are going to do about his Brexit deal and how long an extension EU leaders will give Britain to the current Brexit deadline, which is Thursday. The EU in principle has backed extending the Brexit deadline but officials were meeting again this week to figure out how long it should be.

The Liberal Democrats and the SNP plan to introduce legislation on Tuesday that calls for an early national election on Dec. 9, three days earlier than Johnson proposed and years earlier than Britain's next scheduled vote in 2022.

Because U.K. law requires Parliament to be dissolved 25 working days before an election, the date of any poll will

dictate how much time is available to debate Johnson's Brexit withdrawal deal.

The Liberal Democrats expect a vote on their proposal Thursday, just days before Parliament would be suspended. That would effectively leave no time for lawmakers to consider Johnson's Brexit deal.

In contrast, Johnson announced last week he will ask lawmakers on Monday to authorize a Dec. 12 election, then use the rest of the legislative term to push through his Brexit deal. Under this plan, Parliament would be dissolved on Nov. 7, giving lawmakers about seven days to debate the withdrawal agreement that Johnson and EU leaders agreed upon.

The two sides have effectively been debating Britain's departure from the 28-nation bloc — which has never seen a member leave — since British voters in June 2016 chose to leave the EU. But Johnson's deal was cemented only 10 days ago — and British lawmakers fear rushing through a document that has enormous economic and political consequences for the country.

The problem for Johnson is that his proposal requires a two-thirds vote of the House of Commons and it is opposed by opposition parties who fear it could lead to an economically damaging no-deal Brexit.

In contrast, the Liberal Democrat plan only needs a simple majority in the 650-seat House of Commons due to laws governing elections.

The Liberal Democrat plan would be conditional upon the EU agreeing to extend the Brexit deadline until to the end of January. Johnson has sought a shorter Brexit extension to keep alive the possibility of a no-deal departure, which in turn keeps the pressure on British lawmakers to approve his deal.

Economists say a no-deal departure would be very damaging to both the British and EU economies.

Conservative Party chair James Cleverly dismissed the new election proposal as "clearly a gimmick" designed to delay Brexit because it only moves the election date ahead three days. If the Liberal Democrats and SNP really want an election, they should vote for the Dec. 12 date proposed by Johnson, Cleverly said.

Nation

Ferocious winds fuel blazes throughout Northern California

SANTA ROSA, California (AP)—With ferocious winds driving multiple wildfires through bone-dry vegetation and nearly 200,000 people ordered to leave their homes, California's governor declared a statewide emergency Sunday. Meanwhile, millions of residents remained without power after the state's largest utility cut electricity as a precaution to prevent more areas from igniting.

Gov. Gavin Newsom said in a statement that officials were deploying "every resource available" to respond to the wildfires, including a large blaze in Northern California's wine country powered by gusts that reached more than 102 mph (164 kph). California Fire officials said Sunday that the fire had grown to burn over 85 square miles, and officials reported containment had dropped to 5%. At least 94 structures have been destroyed.

In the San Francisco Bay Area, two grass fires briefly halted traffic on an Interstate bridge. The flames came dangerously close to homes in Vallejo. Another grass fire closed a stretch of interstate that cut through the state capital as smoke obstructed drivers.

In the south, a wildfire in the Santa Clarita area near Los Angeles destroyed 18 structures. As of Sunday night, the Tick Fire was 70% contained.

The biggest evacuation was in Northern California's Sonoma County where 180,000 people were told to pack up



AP
Woodbridge firefighter Joe Zurigen passes a burning home as the Kincadee Fire rages in Healdsburg, Calif., on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019.

300 people slept inside an auditorium filled with cots and wheeled beds. Scores of others stayed in a separate building with their pets.

Among them was Mariabel Cruz, 19, who packed up her dog, four cats and fish as soon as she was told to flee her trailer in the town of Windsor, about 60 miles (97 kilometers) north of San Francisco. She also grabbed a neighbor's cat.

"I'm just nervous since I grew up in Windsor," she said. "I'm hoping the wind cooperates."

Sonoma County Sheriff Mark Essick urged residents in the evacuation zone that stretched from the wine country to Bodega Bay on the coast to get out immediately, citing the 24 lives lost when fire swept through the region in October 2017.

and leave, many in the middle of the night.

To prevent its power lines from sparking in the high winds and setting off more blazes, Pacific Gas & Electric said Sunday that preventative shut-offs impacted 965,000 customers and another 100,000 lost electricity because of strong gusts, bringing the number of residents impacted by blackouts to nearly 2.7 million people.

PG&E officials say they are expecting strong winds to whip up again Tuesday and that they

have notified 500,000 customers — or more than 1 million people — that they are likely to have their power turned off for the third time in a week. Some of those people might not have their power restored from the current outage before the next major shutdown, which would leave them without electricity for five days or longer, said Mark Quinlan, PG&E's emergency preparedness and response director.

The fear that the winds could blow embers and spread

fire across a major highway prompted authorities to expand evacuation orders that covered parts of Santa Rosa, a city of 175,000 that was devastated by a wildfire two years ago.

"This is the largest evacuation that any of us ... can remember," the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office tweeted Sunday. "Take care of each other."

Hundreds of people arrived at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa by Sunday. Some came from senior care facilities. More than

2 dead, 12 injured in TX shooting

GREENVILLE, Texas (AP)—A gunman opened fire at an off-campus college party in Texas, leaving two people dead and 12 others injured before he escaped in the ensuing chaos, authorities said Sunday.

Authorities believe the shooter may have been targeting just one person at the party of about 750 people outside Greenville, 15 miles (24 kilometers) southwest of a satellite campus of the Texas A&M University System, and that others may have been shot at random, Hunt County Sheriff Randy Meeks said. Authorities were still looking for the suspect, Meeks said, and had not yet identified him.

The shooting took place around midnight Saturday at what Meeks described as a Halloween and homecoming party for Texas A&M University-Commerce, though authorities believe there was one male shooter who entered the venue through the back door and began firing with a handgun, Meeks said.

Meeks described "complete chaos" after the shots rang out, with hundreds of people fleeing, including the gunman. Authorities initially had said 14 people were injured, but they later revised that figure.

The 12 injured included six people who were trampled or

hurt by glass in the melee, according to Sgt. Jeff Haines, a spokesman for the sheriff's department. Six others were injured by gunfire. Four of them were in critical condition and one was in good condition Sunday afternoon, he said. He did not know the condition of the sixth person.

The two people killed were both males, Meeks said. Family members identified one of the victims to local media as Kevin Berry Jr., 23, of Dallas.

After a vigil for Berry on Sunday night at a Dallas park, at least one person opened fire. Mourners and reporters on hand for the event took cover and at least one vehicle was struck by bullets, according to local media reports. Multiple gunshots can be heard in a video posted by one reporter.

Dallas police said the shooting stemmed from a "disturbance" at the vigil and that no injuries were reported.

University President and CEO Mark Rudin, in a statement on the school's Facebook page, said four of its students were treated and released from area hospitals. The students were not identified.

Rudin said there is "a tremendous amount of misinformation" about the shooting and that counseling services are available to all our students at the university's counseling center.

Native Hawaiian heiress faces court test to control millions

HONOLULU (AP)—A 93-year-old heiress doesn't need a guardian to take care of her, but a hearing will be held to determine whether she needs a conservator to oversee her \$215 million trust, a judge ruled Friday in an ongoing battle over her wealth.

Abigail Kawanakoa's fortune has been tied up in a court case since her 2017 stroke. Her longtime lawyer, Jim Wright, argued the stroke left her impaired, and he stepped in to assume the role of trustee.

Kawanakoa said she's fine, fired Wright and married her partner of 20 years, Veronica Gail Worth.

Kawanakoa inherited her wealth as the great-granddaughter of James Campbell, an Irish businessman who made his fortune as a sugar plantation owner and one of Hawaii's largest landowners.

Native Hawaiians consider her a princess because she's a descendant of the family that

ruled the islands before the overthrow of the Hawaiian kingdom in 1893.

They have been closely watching the legal wrangling over her trust because they are concerned about the fate of a foundation she set up to benefit Hawaiian causes.

Last year, Judge R. Mark Browning ruled Kawanakoa lacks the mental capacity to manage her trust, appointed First Hawaiian Bank to serve as trustee and removed Wright.

Wright had appointed three prominent Native Hawaiian leaders to serve as board members for the \$100 million foundation Kawanakoa created in 2001. The foundation is participating in the court battle because it is a beneficiary of her trust.

Board members of her foundation and ex-employees say her wife is manipulating her. Lawyers for the couple dispute that.

Petitions for a guardian and a

conservator come "from a place of sincere respect and reverence, honoring Ms. Kawanakoa's lifelong commitment to the Native Hawaiian people," said David Kauila Kopper, an attorney for the foundation.

She attempted to change her trust last year to ensure her wife receives \$40 million and all her personal property, according to court records.

The couple's lawyers said Friday that Kawanakoa is well-cared for and should be able to do what she wants with her money.

The allegations that she can't take care of herself or her affairs, is "speculation of the worst kind," said her attorney, Bruce Voss.

"Just because Ms. Kawanakoa has a great deal of assets and just because there's a lot of people who think they could do a better job of spending her money than she does, does not mean that Ms. Kawanakoa has lost the ba-

sic right to decide what she wants to do with her money and property," Voss said.

Kawanakoa watched the hearing with the couple's Chihuahua on her lap, while seated next to Worth.

"People don't like Ms. Worth, maybe it's her age, maybe it's the same-sex relationship, maybe it's the amount of money other people could have," Worth's attorney, Michael Rudy said.

If Kawanakoa could take the stand and testify, "she would tell you just leave me alone," Rudy said.

She may have to do exactly that during a future evidentiary hearing to determine whether there should be a conservator. Browning said she will need to undergo a medical examination before the hearing.

It's a "sad situation," Kawanakoa said outside the courtroom. "My heritage dictates that I must take care of the Hawaiian people."

Asia

S. Korea proposes meeting on dormant tour project with North

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea on Monday proposed a face-to-face meeting with North Korea on the fate of a long-shuttered joint tourist project at a scenic North Korean mountain, as their relations remain cool over stalemated nuclear diplomacy.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un last week ordered the destruction of South Korean-built facilities at the North's Diamond Mountain resort, saying they look "shabby" and "unpleasant-looking." North Korea later proposed an exchange of documents to work out details.

On Monday, South Korea sent a message proposing officials from the two Koreas meet to discuss issues on the tourist project including the North's push to tear down South Korean-constructed facilities there, according to Seoul's Unification Ministry. Spokesman Lee Sang-min said South Korea hasn't yet proposed a specific date and location for that meeting.

Lee said South Korea has determined there should be "some sort of meeting" between the two Koreas to discuss the issue. He said "a unilateral action" by North



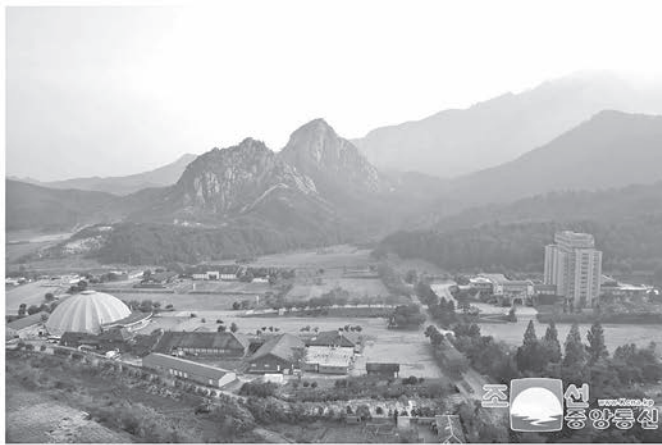
This undated combination photo provided on Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2019 and made by the North Korean government, shows scenes of the Diamond Mountain resort where North Korean leader Kim Jong Un visited, in Kumgang, North Korea.

Korea could damage inter-Korean relations and runs counter to public sentiments in South Korea.

North Korea didn't immediately respond to South Ko-

rea's proposal.

South Korean tours to the mountain began in 1998, providing a rare source of foreign currency for the impoverished North. The mountain was



AP

also one of the few places in North Korea that South Koreans could visit. But the project was halted in 2008 when a North Korean soldier fatally shot a South Korean tourist who the North says entered a

restricted area.

Pyongyang has called for the project's restart since it entered nuclear diplomacy with Washington and Seoul last year. But Seoul cannot revive tours to the mountain and

other massive stalled inter-Korean economic projects while international sanctions remain in place over the North's nuclear program.

Some experts say the North's threat to destroy the South Korean facilities, which include hotels, restaurants and spas, might be an expression of its frustration at the sanctions and a bid to put more pressure on Seoul to resume the tours.

Lee, the South Korean spokesman, said the South Korean proposal include the Seoul-based Hyundai Asan, the former tour operator at the mountain resort, attending possible talks with North Korea. The company built many of the facilities that North Korea wants to destroy.

North Korea is pushing hard to win broad sanctions relief to salvage its troubled economy. But the United States has maintained North Korea must first take significant steps toward denuclearization before getting big outside concessions. Their talks on the North's nuclear program largely remain largely deadlocked since a second summit between Kim and President Donald Trump in Vietnam in February fell apart due to disputes over U.S.-led U.N. sanctions on North Korea.

HK protesters use skin and ink to support movement

HONG KONG (AP)—Mike Chan's tattoo needle buzzes gently as he draws a design on his customer's thigh — a figure wearing a helmet, goggles and mask.

Dipping his needle into pots of black, red and yellow ink, Chan hunches over his client's leg as he painstakingly brings to life the image of a Hong Kong protester clad in protective gear.

Using his art is Chan's way of contributing to Hong Kong's anti-government protest movement, which has consumed the semi-autonomous Chinese territory for months.

While groups of hardcore protesters tangling with riot police have become the movement's most visible symbol, others are using skin and ink to show their support.

"I am actually just a peaceful protester. I really want to go to the front line, but I don't have the courage yet to stand and fight against the government at the front because I'm very frightened," said Mary, who was getting the thigh tattoo, her first.

She chose her thigh because she could easily cover it up. She would reveal only her first name because

she didn't want anyone she works with to find out.

Many protesters have sought to conceal their identities with face masks to avoid being identified, out of fear of arrest.

Hong Kong's protest movement erupted in June in opposition to an extradition bill that would have sent suspects to stand trial in mainland China, and later expanded to include full democracy and police accountability.

Rallies have frequently ended in mayhem, with hardcore protesters wearing goggles and gas masks throwing bricks and firebombs at police armed with tear gas, pepper spray and water cannons.

Now in its fifth month, the unrest has polarized the city.

Mary, 29, said she has taken part in mass protests that involved peaceful activity, such as singing along to the movement's anthem.

But she added, "I really admire front-line protesters who fight at the front and are not afraid of getting arrested or being beaten up. Not everyone has this courage."

Mary said she had been thinking about getting a protest tattoo for about two

months. She hoped that it would inspire her friends to get them too.

Chan, who has been working as a tattoo artist for two years, said demand took off after he started doing the protest tattoos for free in July, though it has tapered off more recently.

"I do these resistance tattoos free of charge because I see this as part of protesting," said Chan, comparing himself to supporters handing out free water bottles during rallies in Hong Kong's sweltering heat.

He offers a few dozen variations of the mask and goggles figure for free and has done about 70 of them.

"I want to give them a choice, not just like a stamp that's all the same," he said.

He charges for other protest-themed tattoos such as slogans like "Free Hong Kong" and "Fight for freedom" done in calligraphy, because they take more time.

Tattoos in Hong Kong used to have unsavory connotations, usually signifying that the bearer was a member of an organized crime gang. But Chan and Mary say those attitudes have changed in recent years and their acceptance as an art form has grown.

Rebels abduct dozens from Myanmar boat, say govt killed some

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—An ethnic guerrilla army in Myanmar said some of the several dozen soldiers, police and civilian officials it abducted from a ferry were killed in a subsequent attack by government helicopters.

A statement posted Sunday on the website of the Arakan Army, a rebel group in the western state of Rakhine, said three helicopters attacked three boats carrying the captured personnel after they were seized on Saturday, sinking two. It said some captives and members of its guerrilla force were killed. The claim could not immediately be confirmed.

An Information Ministry statement said earlier that 58 people had been abducted by about 30 Arakan Army members from the boat carrying 165 civilian passengers and about 50 government personnel from Rakhine's capital, Sittwe, north to Buthidaung.

A statement issued Sunday night on the website of Myanmar's military commander-in-chief acknowledged dispatching helicopters to try to rescue the abductees. It said the helicopters suffered some damage

from gunfire and a crewman was lightly wounded, while at least 14 people who had been kidnapped were rescued.

The report did not specifically refer to an attack on boats or casualties among the abductees.

The Arakan Army says it is seeking self-determination. It represents the Buddhist Rakhine inhabitants of Rakhine state, and is one of more than a dozen ethnic minorities in Myanmar seeking autonomy.

The military in 2017 waged a brutal counterinsurgency campaign against the Muslim Rohingya minority in Rakhine, causing more than 700,000 people to flee to neighboring Bangladesh. The army and other security forces were accused of major abuses, including organized rape, murder and the burning of villages, that a U.N.-appointed investigation has called ethnic cleansing.

While Rohingya insurgents have been largely inactive since late 2017, the Arakan Army has been engaged in increasingly fierce fighting with government forces since late last year. The U.N. and independent groups say hu-

man rights violations have increased as the government battles the Arakan Army, with the government side blamed for most, but not all, of the abuses.

The Arakan Army has been especially aggressive in its attacks and has active alliances with several other armed ethnic rebel groups, helping it keep the government off-balance by staging joint attacks in other areas of the country.

In August, it staged coordinated attacks with allies at five locations, including a military academy outside normal combat areas, where a civilian was killed and a soldier wounded.

The alliance with the Ta'ang National Liberation Army, representing the Palaung minority, and the Kokang minority's Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army claimed responsibility for the attacks in Myanmar's central Mandalay region in Northern Shan state, where 14 people were reported killed.

Since becoming independent from Britain in 1948, Myanmar has been wracked by fighting with minority groups in border areas seeking greater autonomy from the central government.

World

Stunning wealth, poor services behind massive Chile protests

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—It's not about a 4-cent hike in subway prices.

The decision to add 30 pesos to the cost of a ticket on Latin America's most modern public transportation system this month drew little attention inside or outside Chile, at first. People quietly fumed. A week later, high-school students launched four days of turnstile-jumping protests. Crowds of angry youths built up inside metro stations.

With no warning, on the afternoon of Oct. 18, they set fire to stations, then trains. Then grocery, department stores and pharmacies went up in flames. Hundreds of thousands of people were left stranded at home or on the streets without public transport. But instead of blaming the young protesters, Chileans from almost all walks of life used social media to call for protests against years of government mismanagement.

Santiago exploded into a week of massive street protests that culminated Friday with more than a million people in the heart of the capital and other major cities — the largest demonstrations ever in the country, according to multiple historians.

With the world wondering how modern, prosperous Chile had erupted into chaos, a protest concert drew 15,000 on Sunday to green and shady O'Higgins Park in central



A woman bangs a pot, a sign of protest, during an anti-government music concert in O'Higgins Park in Santiago, Chile, Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019. AP

Santiago. There, Chileans said the rise in the cost of a metro ticket had been merely the spark that set off years of frustration with the dark underbelly of their country's long drive to be the most market-driven economy in Latin America.

"What we Chileans want is equal treatment for all, that the cake be divided up fairly," said Mario Gonzalez, 34, who runs a t-shirt printing business. "We

don't want anything for free; we just want to pay a fair price."

Young, old, poor and middle-class, protesters said they were united by frustration with the so-called neoliberal model that has left Chile with region-topping prosperity along with a widely criticized private pension system, and two-tiered health and education systems that blend the public and private, with better results

for the minority who can afford to pay, protesters said.

Many Chileans talk of waiting a year for an appointment with a specialist, or families receiving calls to finally set up appointments for loved ones who died months earlier. Hundreds of thousands are hobbled by educational loans that can follow them into their 40s and even 50s.

"Countries with high levels of inequality such as Chile are like recovering alcoholics. They can be well for many years, but they shouldn't forget they have a problem," said Patricio Navia, an adjunct assistant professor at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at New York University. "Inequality is a threat to Chile's stability."

Alexis Moreira Arenas, 37, and his wife Stephanie Carrasco, 36, are comfortably in the middle class but he pays some 10 percent of his salary to a privately run pension system that generates steady profits for fund managers but an average pension around \$300 a month, roughly a third of what a retired person needs to live. She is still paying off \$110 a month in college loans, about 10 percent of their income. Another 30 percent goes to private preschool for their 2-year-old son.

"It's a series of problems that all come together; public transport, education, health, because the health system here works really badly," Moreria said. "Above all, it's a question of inequality."

Protesters in O'Higgins Park said President Sebastián Piñera's firing of his Cabinet Saturday would do nothing to calm the streets. Almost uniformly, they said they would continue protesting until they saw fundamental changes in Chile, starting with the replacement of the 1980 constitution, written under military dictator Augusto Pinochet, that creates the legal basis of Chile's market-driven system. Already, there were calls Sunday evening on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and WhatsApp for protests every day of the coming week.

Mexico's Culiacan tries to regroup after fierce gunbattles

CULIACAN, Mexico (AP)—A dozen or so charred vehicles sit in a government impound lot outside this northwestern city including a patrol car, a military pickup and a tractor-trailer, casualties of a recent terrifying shootout between drug gang henchmen and Mexican security forces.

In a central district where the worst of the violence took place, blown-out windows have been replaced and bullet holes are plastered over on restaurants, convenience stores and a home where the son of Mexico's notorious drug lord was believed to have been holed up.

Those physical scars of the Oct. 17 gunbattles — what's come to be known as "black Thursday" by residents of Culiacan, the capital of Sinaloa and a stronghold of the Sinaloa cartel long led by Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán — are beginning to heal. But residents are still coming to grips with the worst cartel violence in recent memory, in which 13 people were killed including at least

three innocents caught in the crossfire. More than a week later, it's what's on everyone's lips, from cab conversations to newspaper editorials, as the city of some 800,000 wonders how to move on.

"For people here in Culiacan, there is a psychosis that it could happen again at any moment," said Marco Castillo, a 52-year-old who works in the transportation industry, speaking on the street-side patio of a restaurant outside of which the gunbattle raged. "On a social level it is going to leave a scar that will be tarnished by what Culiacan has been through."

Set in an inland valley between the beaches of the Gulf of California and the marijuana plantations of the Sierra Madre Oriental range, Culiacan is home to major exporters of crops such as tomatoes, chilis and beets to U.S. markets. A low-slung city with few high-rises, its historic center teems with smoky minibuses and families strolling on weekend shopping trips.

Sinaloa has been "El Cha-

po" territory for about three decades since the cartel was founded, and it's seen dark times. In 2011, around a high point of Mexico's drug war, nearly 2,000 people were murdered. But homicides have been on a downward trend more recently with just 695 this year through September, compared with 1,202 for all last year.

So while locals long ago grew accustomed to crime and shootings — mostly between local gangsters — the Oct. 17 firefights were shocking. Hundreds of gunmen with high-caliber weapons blockaded 19 key intersections and river bridges, setting vehicles aflame and turning the cityscape into something resembling a war zone with staccato gunfire and columns of smoke rising skyward.

In the face of the fierce response to their ill-fated operation that had cornered Ovidio Guzmán, federal security officials ordered a retreat and "El Chapo's" son was free to escape.

WORLD BRIEFS

Argentina's center-left Peronists poised to return to power

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Conservative President Mauricio Macri conceded defeat in Argentina's election Sunday night, paving the way for the country's Peronist center-left to return to power under Alberto Fernández as frustrated voters rejected the incumbent's handling of a bruising economic crisis that has sunk many into poverty. The result could rattle financial markets and possibly further depreciate Argentina's already weak currency over concerns of a return to the interventionist policies of former President Cristina Fernández, who is Alberto Fernández's vice presidential running mate. Opponents believe she would be the power behind the throne in a Peronist government — a fear dismissed by the candidates. Thousands of the two Fernández's supporters crowded their campaign headquarters in a jubilant celebration waving sky-blue and white Argentine flags and chanting "We're coming back! We're coming back!"

Uruguay's tight presidential vote appears headed to runoff

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (AP)—Uruguay's presidential election appeared headed for a runoff as neither leading candidate had enough support to win outright in a vote that could see the left lose power in the South American country for the first time in nearly 15 years. With three quarters of the voting stations counted from Sunday's election, Daniel Martínez of the ruling Broad Front had 37.5% support and Luis

Lacalle Pou, a centrist former lawmaker from the National Party, had 29% support. Neither appeared able to get the 50% plus one vote needed to avoid a runoff in November. In third place was Colorado Party candidate Ernesto Talvi with 12.5%. The left-leaning Broad Front coalition has governed the small nation since 2005 and its achievements include laws to approve gay marriage and the creation of the world's first national marketplace for legal marijuana. But opponents have capitalized on growing disenchantment with the government over slowing economic growth and rising insecurity.

Colombia's capital city of Bogota elects first female mayor

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—Colombia's capital city elected its first female mayor Sunday in what is being hailed as an important advancement for both women and LGBT rights. Claudia López won the race for mayor of Bogota on a platform promising to combat corruption and advance equal rights for minority communities. The Alianza Verde candidate captured over 1.1 million votes, or about 35 percent of the vote, defeating runner-up Carlos Galán by 2.7 percentage points. With her victory, López also becomes the first openly lesbian mayor of a capital city in Latin America, a region slowly advancing in improving LGBT rights but where long-standing cultural biases and inequality remain barriers. "This is the day of the woman," she said to a jubilant crowd. "We knew that only by uniting could we win. We did that. We united, we won and we made history!"

Focus

With ISIS death, Trump touts much-needed triumph

NEW YORK (AP)—The killing of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi gave President Donald Trump an undeniable national security triumph and also a much-needed political victory at the most precarious moment of his presidency.

Imperiled by an impeachment inquiry and facing fierce foreign policy criticism from within his own party, Trump reveled in the win Sunday, at first announcing the raid like so many of his predecessors, with solemnity for the mission in Syria and praise for the brave Americans and allies who carried it out.

As the minutes passed, he reverted to the president who has tried to redefine the office and how Americans view it, using graphic language and awkward ad-libs while dispensing criticism of his political foes, at home and abroad, and turning the triumph into a moment, more than anything, about Donald J. Trump himself.

Despite the Trumpian flourishes, the president's White House reveal of al-Baghdadi's death gave him a destined-for-history image to place alongside Barack Obama's iconic announcement of the killing of Osama



People look at a destroyed houses near the village of Barisha, in Idlib province, Syria, Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019, after an operation by the U.S. military which targeted Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the shadowy leader of the Islamic State group. President Donald Trump says Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi is dead after a U.S. military operation in Syria targeted the Islamic State group leader.

Bin Laden. It also offered him a reprieve from the escalating impeachment inquiry and a ready-made line for this 2020 reelection campaign.

"The al-Baghdadi raid is a gold star for the Trump presi-

dency. It was a lifeline to him because his poll numbers are tumbling and people think he's made significant foreign policy mistakes in the Middle East," said Douglas Brinkley, a presidential historian at Rice Uni-

versity. "Just when he is massively hemorrhaging, he is able to claim a foreign policy win. Impeachment will swirl around him but this is concrete."

The timing for Trump was fortuitous. His poll numbers

have slipped since the initiation of the Democrats' impeachment inquiry into the request Trump made of Ukraine to investigate a political foe, leading to a parade of officials providing damag-

ing testimony on Capitol Hill. Moreover, the raid comes against the backdrop of some of the most pointed criticism from his own party over his decision to pull most U.S. troops out of Syria.

"This allows him to say we can still succeed in Syria in light of all that has happened there in recent weeks because of his policy change," said Richard Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Haass cautioned that because of the opaque nature of the Islamic State, al-Baghdadi's death was "not a transformational event" that would forever cripple the militant network. But he underscored that for the nation and for Trump, "it was a good day because it sends the message that no enemy of the United States is safe."

In a national Sunday morning address that he had teased on Saturday night, Trump described the daring nighttime airborne raid by American special operations forces in Syria's northwestern Idlib province and said they flew over heavily militarized territory controlled by multiple nations and forces. He adopted the role of narrator, at one point marveling at the clarity of the video taken during the raid.

BEIRUT (AP)—The Islamic State group erupted from the chaos of conflicts in Syria and Iraq, and it swiftly did what no other militant organization had done before: conquer a giant stretch of territory and declare itself a "caliphate."

Its territorial rule, which at its height in 2014 stretched across nearly a third of both Syria and Iraq, ended in March with a last stand by several hundred of its militants at a tiny Syrian village on the banks of the Euphrates near the border with Iraq.

But the militants have maintained a presence in both countries, and their shadowy leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi had continued releasing messages urging them to keep fighting. On Sunday, the U.S. said al-Baghdadi had died a day earlier when he detonated his suicide vest in a tunnel while being pursued by U.S. forces in Syria's Idlib province.

Key moments in the rise and fall of the Islamic State group:

April 2013—Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of al-Qaida's branch in Iraq, announces the merger of his group with al-Qaida's franchise in Syria,

Timeline of the rise and fall of the Islamic State group

forming the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant.

2014

January—Al-Baghdadi's forces overrun the city of Fallujah in western Iraq and parts of the nearby provincial capital of Ramadi. In Syria, they seize sole control of the city of Raqqa after driving out rival Syrian rebel factions, and it becomes their de facto capital.

February—Al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahri disavows al-Baghdadi after the Iraqi militant ignores his demands that IS leave Syria.

June—IS captures Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, and pushes south as Iraqi forces crumble, eventually capturing Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit and reaching the outskirts of Baghdad. When they threaten Shiite holy sites, Iraq's top Shiite cleric issues a call to arms, and masses of volunteers, largely backed and armed by Iran, join militias.

June 29—The group renames itself the Islamic State and declares the establishment of a self-styled "caliph-

ate," a traditional model of Islamic rule, in its territories in Iraq and Syria. Al-Baghdadi is declared the caliph.

July 4—Al-Baghdadi makes his first public appearance, delivering a Friday sermon in Mosul's historic al-Nuri Mosque. He urges Muslims around the world to swear allegiance to the caliphate and obey him as its leader.

August—IS captures the town of Sinjar west of Mosul and begins a systematic slaughter of the tiny Yazidi religious community. Women and girls are kidnapped as sex slaves; hundreds remain missing to this day.

Aug. 8—The U.S. launches its campaign of airstrikes against IS in Iraq.

Sept. 22—The U.S.-led coalition begins an air campaign against IS in Syria.

2015

January—Iraqi Kurdish fighters, backed by U.S.-led airstrikes, drive IS out of several towns north of Mosul. In Syria, Kurdish fighters backed by U.S. airstrikes repel an IS onslaught on Kobani, a town on the border with Turkey, in the first significant defeat for IS.

April 1—U.S.-backed Iraqi forces retake Tikrit, their first major victory against IS.

May 20—IS captures the ancient Syrian town of Palmyra, where the extremists later destroy archaeological treasures.

2016

Feb. 9—Iraqi forces recapture Ramadi after months of fighting and at enormous cost, with thousands of buildings destroyed. Almost the entire population fled.

June 26—Fallujah is declared liberated by Iraqi forces after a five-week battle.

July 3—IS sets off a gigantic suicide truck bomb outside a Baghdad shopping mall, killing almost 300 people, the deadliest attack in Iraq since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

Oct. 17—Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi announces the start of the operation to liberate Mosul.

Nov. 5—The U.S.-backed, Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces launch Operation Euphrates Wrath, the first of

five operations aiming to retake Raqqa, starting with an encircling of the city.

2017

Jan. 24—Al-Abadi announces eastern Mosul has been "fully liberated."

May 10—SDF captures the strategic Tabqa dam after weeks of battles and a major airlift operation that brought SDF fighters and their U.S. advisers to the area. The fall of the dam facilitated the push on Raqqa, about 40 kilometers (25 miles) away.

June 6—SDF fighters begin an attack on Raqqa from three sides, backed by U.S.-led airstrikes.

June 18—Iraqi forces launch battle for Mosul's Old City, the last IS stronghold there.

June 21—IS destroys Mosul's iconic al-Nuri Mosque and its 12th century leaning minaret as Iraqi forces close in.

July 10—Iraqi prime minister declares victory over IS in Mosul and end of the extremists' caliphate in Iraq.

Oct. 17—SDF takes full control of Raqqa after months of heavy bombardment that

devastates the city.

September-December

Syrian government forces, backed by Russian air power and Iranian forces, recapture IS territory on the western bank of the Euphrates, seizing the cities of Deir el-Zour, Mayadin and Boukamal on the border with Iraq.

2018

Aug. 23—IS leader al-Baghdadi resurfaces in his first purported audio recording in almost a year, and he urges followers to continue fighting.

Sept. 10—SDF launches a ground offensive, backed by U.S.-led airstrikes, to take the last territory held by IS in Syria's eastern province of Deir el-Zour.

2019

March 23—SDF declares the complete capture of Baghouz and the end of the Islamic State group's territorial "caliphate."

Oct. 27—U.S. President Donald Trump says al-Baghdadi died Saturday after a nighttime airborne raid by American special operations forces in Syria's northwestern Idlib province when he detonated a suicide vest in a tunnel while running away.

Overdrive

By HENRY PAYNE
THE DETROIT NEWS

Waiting at the Pittsburgh airport arrivals curb to pick up my son for a race weekend at Pittsburgh International Raceway, I was approached by one of the fiercest cops I have ever seen. Built like Mt. Rushmore and just as tall, he bristled with more weaponry than an Army battalion. Double-barrel shotgun, twin hip holsters, a billy stick.

Good lord, what had I done? "Is that the new Corolla?" he thrilled like a kid on Christmas morning, ogling the 2019 Toyota hatchback tester I had driven from Detroit. Phew, he just wanted to talk cars.

Yes, yes. I know what you're thinking. He wanted to talk about Corollas? But Toyota's seventh generation is not your typical Corolla appliance.

Toyota CEO Akio Toyoda has let it be known that he wants his Toyota and Lexus brands to have more curb appeal, and nothing is immune—not even his entry-level egg beater. For decades Corolla has been a perennial best-seller in the class thanks to its bulletproof value equation. Pick up a Corolla in the appliance aisle and it will run forever—as reliable as a colie and never asking anything in return save the occasional fill-up at the pump. Corolla's reliability has won over generations of buyers.

But it has never made any-

one's heart beat faster. Until now.

I remember one of my first comparison tests as a Detroit News reviewer featuring Chevy's now-defunct Cruze. GM was eager to show it off against the class competition—the sexy Mazda 3, sporty Ford Focus, nimble VW Golf. And, oh yes, Corolla.

The Corolla was the dog of the stable. Homely, with uninspired styling inside and out, it was the acknowledged value leader—but that didn't mean you wanted to drive it.

"It's a comparison test, so I guess we have to include the class best-seller," groaned the assembled media. Zipping around GM's Milford test track, the Corolla leaned this way and that, its torsion beam rear suspension catapulting my head into the roof over bumps like a trampoline.

With the new Corolla, Toyota is rewarding its generations of loyal subjects with a snazzy hatchback XSE they can finally enjoy for driving as much as it'll save them in the wallet. My new cop friend was not the only admirer on my Pennsylvania round trip. More than a couple cars shadowed me on the Ohio Turnpike.

At the race track, a longtime Corolla owner strolled by. "Can I sit in it?" he asked.

There's a lot to drink in for generations of starved Corolla owners.

Begin with the racy grille

anchored by the Toyota logo. The lights sweep toward the fenders like winglets, while the whale-like grille below could swallow an ocean of krill. The lines roll backward across a raked windshield to an aggressively sloped rear window that gives Corolla the appearance of speed even when it is standing still. The look is capped off by a dramatic roof aerofoil.

My test package was wrapped in a dramatic "Blue Flame" wardrobe that reminded me of the BMW Z4 toy I recently tested—or the Skittle row of bright blue, green, yellow and red Dodge Challengers you'll see lined up at the Dream Cruise. Yes, this new Corolla wants to be noticed.

Inside, Corolla's once bland furniture has been transformed into an electronic wonderland, with a fully digital tachometer and table console screen. Sure, the electronics often over-nanny you (a Toyota family trait), but tech is a good thing and Corolla is even updated with Apple CarPlay, which Toyota has long resisted.

Riding shotgun, Mrs. Payne instantly configured Apple CarPlay for crisp directions on our multi-state journey. The rest of the console is less clever—storage space, for example, is awkwardly shoved deep under the console buttons—but this is also the result of dra-

matic lines that envelope the stick shift.

Stick shift, Payne?

Yes, the new Corolla hatch even courts the few, the proud motorheads who want to row the box—my speed-addled, 20-something sons included—the target demo of this \$25K value pack. The six-speed tranny even offers adaptive cruise control—rare in a stick.

Under the cane, the manual is nicely calibrated for precise shifts—and it is mated to a chassis that wants to play.

Throw the Corolla into a cloverleaf and its stiff, new Global Architecture (which also undergirds the much-improved Camry) begs for more throttle. You want more, and that is where the 168-horse Corolla comes up short.

For while the 2019 Corolla is the best ever, it must compete in a ferociously competitive class that has not stood still while Toyota baked its tasty new muffin.

There are hatchbacks galore in this segment, and they are all nice bargains with a little more character than the Corolla. There's Corolla's chief rival, the Honda Civic, which loads the segment with more model flavors than Baskin-Robbins. There's the Sport hatch (in manual, hatch), and the Si coupe, and for the really ambitious, the brawling Type R.

With more rear-seat room and a peppier 1.5-liter turbo mill, the Civic is Corolla's value mach. As is the Subaru Impreza hatchback. While its all-wheel-drive is available at the same price as Corolla and standard features galore, the 'Ru is affordable utility that can climb Everest in winter.

And then there are my class favorites, the athletic Mazda 3 hatchback and VW Golf.

Their neat, conservative stylings are attractive and timeless. And they will run circles around the Corolla. The

Mazda boasts 18 more horsepower from its 2.5-liter four, while the Golf's turbo 1.4-liter pumps out a stump-pulling 184 pound-feet of torque.

Eschewing Corolla's sculpted rear window for squared-off utility, the Golf's rear hatch will swallow three more cubic feet of cargo—a difference my family noticed in our back-and-forth forays to the airport/hotel and track where the Corolla's angled rear window made multiple bag storage a challenge.

With a used market full of 228-horsepower Golf GTIs, my sons figured they would go that route for a new Corolla price, but with much more room and raciness to show for it.

That said, it's good to see Corolla in the game. For the first time in memory, Corolla is a car that turns heads. Makes the heart beat faster. Begs to be driven.

Just ask the smiling cop approaching you at the airport.

Toyota Corolla Hatchback is wallflower no more



The 2019 Toyota Corolla Hatchback TOYOTA

NUTS & BOLTS

2019 Toyota Corolla Hatchback

■ Vehicle type: Front-engine, front-wheel drive, five-passenger compact hatchback
■ Price: Base price \$21,220, including \$930 destination charge (\$25,686 XSE as tested)

■ Powerplant: 2.0-liter inline-4 cylinder

■ Power: 168 horsepower, 151 pound-feet of torque

■ Transmission: 6-speed manual

■ Performance: 0-60 mph, 8.2 seconds (Motor Trend); top speed, 114 mph

■ Weight: 3,000 pounds (est.)

■ Fuel economy: EPA mpg, 32 city/42 highway/36 combined

■ Report card

■ Highs: Modern interior; fun to drive

■ Lows: Engine lacks kick; cramped rear cargo

Under the Hood: Too much oil in crankcase not a good thing

Q: I recently had my oil changed. After looking around under the hood occasionally as you have recommended, I discovered the oil level is about 1/2 inch above the full mark on the dipstick. Could this be normal or should I return the car for correction? Can this cause a problem?

A: This should be rectified! An overfilled crankcase may result in the crankshaft striking the oil, possibly enough so to whip the oil into a froth. Frothy oil results in a loss of vital oil pressure and can result in serious engine damage. Increased crankcase pressure may also occur, which could push oil past seals, causing leaks. Seal damage isn't likely,

but who needs the mess?

If you haven't noticed frothing on the dipstick or oil spots, you should be OK. But have this fixed, as a precaution!

Q: I just had a check engine light happen. My son checked it with his little tool and phone and said it's a P0440 code. How serious is this? Can I still drive back and forth to work until I can get it fixed?

A: It sounds like your son is using an Elm327 interface device (\$10-20) or similar in conjunction with his phone and a downloaded app such as Torque Pro. This can be a simple and inexpensive way to look at certain engine operating functions along with diagnostic codes. Cheaper in-

terface devices can be buggy.

Your P0440 DTC (diagnostic trouble code) indicates a fault in the EVAP (evaporative emissions control system), likely causing a fuel vapor leak to the atmosphere. The EVAP system gathers and holds fuel tank and fuel system vapors, storing them in a charcoal canister until it's a good time to purge them (they are drawn into the engine for consumption). An EVAP system leak will pose no problems for vehicle operation but should be fixed when you can for environmental reasons and to be able to pass an emissions inspection.

A loose or faulty fuel filler cap is a common cause of this

code. Try removing the cap, inspect the rubber seal for problems, and securely reinstall it. Depending on fuel level and driving trip characteristics, it can take several days or more for the OBD-II system to repeatedly run the EVAP system monitor (test) and see three successful trips before turning off the light. Your son's app may provide a code clearing function, which would be immediate. Other P0440 causes can be challenging to locate, such as a faulty purge or vent valve, leaking canister, hose or tank filler neck. Diagnosing such a fault is a pro level repair!

UPDATE ON STRUTS: In a recent column on strut replace-

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
Tribune News Service

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at bradbergholdt@gmail.com; he cannot make personal replies.



ment, I pretty much pooh-poohed the idea of replacing struts at home. Reader Bob G. politely reminded me that Quick Struts can make this a moderately easy DIY job (a wheel alignment check afterward is still recommended)

Yikes! I had a gray moment! Quick Struts are complete replacement struts, also including the coil spring and upper mount, and cost perhaps only 25-40% more than an identical bare strut. Renewing the com-

plete assembly also makes sense on a higher mileage vehicle as possible spring sag and a worn upper mount would no longer be of concern. Strut upper mounts are like a sandwich, connecting the strut to the vehicle body structure. They contain a thick rubber cushion and, on front struts, a bearing to allow steering rotation. Symptoms of a worn strut mount can include clunking, stiff or sloppy steering, and tire wear due to alignment shifting.

Life & Style

Boundary-pushing Dave Chappelle receives Mark Twain award

By **ASHRAF KHALIL**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dave Chappelle has built a career on pushing boundaries and challenging social conventions. But his greatest act of defiance may have come Sunday night at Washington's Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

At the end of an evening of tributes and testimonials, Chappelle came on stage to accept his Mark Twain prize for lifetime achievement in comedy with a lit cigarette in hand.

"I want every in America to look at me smoking indoors," He announced. "I didn't ask anybody. What are they going to do? Kick me out? This is called leverage!"

A host of comedians and musicians paid tribute to Chappelle, 46, describing him as a uniquely gifted and passionate performer with a sort of pied piper appeal that drew other artists into his circle.

Rapper and actor Common praised Dave Chappelle's bravery and sociological influence.

"He's a beacon for a lot of different progressive thought,"

he said as he entered the Kennedy Center Sunday night.

"He's always been a leader in thought and culture. He says provocative things and I respect that. He brings uncomfortable things up and now we have to discuss it," he said. "I think he's one of the greatest, not just entertainers, but the greatest minds we have in this day and age."

Michael Che, co-host of Weekend Update on "Saturday Night Live" called Chappelle, "the entertainment equivalent of what they call a five-tool player in baseball. He can perform, he can write, he can do characters. That's why his fan-base is so wide."

Sunday night's ceremony was a homecoming for Chappelle, 46, who was raised in suburban Silver Spring, Maryland and attended Washington's prestigious Duke Ellington School of the Arts.

"Going there was one of the great privileges of my life," he said on the red carpet. "D.C. in the '80s was turbulent and I met a bunch of young black artists who taught me it was OK to be different. It was OK to be weird."



In this Sept. 8, 2018 file photo, Dave Chappelle speaks at the press conference for "A Star Is Born" on day 4 of the Toronto International Film Festival at the TIFF Bell Lightbox in Toronto. **AP**

Chappelle was already a well-established comedian and comedic actor when he was given his own sketch comedy show in 2003.

The show on Comedy Central, "Chappelle's Show," was an immediate hit. It combined clever parodies that often tweaked racial conventions

with uniquely staged musical productions featuring hip-hop and soul artists.

At the height of his popularity, Chappelle shocked the entertainment industry by walking away from a lucrative contract extension and abandoning the show while it was preparing for its third

season. He disappeared from public view and took an extended trip to Africa. He later explained that the pressures of the show's success and the influence applied by the network made him feel "like some kind of a prostitute."

Chappelle gradually returned to performing, more

powerful than ever, and now releases regular stand-up specials under a multimillion-dollar deal with Netflix. The departure from his own hit show made him an inspirational symbol for artists and comedians, particularly minorities, for his willingness to sacrifice profit to retain his independence.

Jon Stewart, former host of the "The Daily Show," spoke of Chappelle's decision with respect, saying he and other comedians were in awe of, "the courage that it takes as a performer or an artist to stand for who you know you are—to take a chance on yourself."

Common added, "For someone to say, 'I'm stepping away from this because it just doesn't feel right in my soul.' Not a lot of people think like that."

Musician John Legend paid tribute to Chappelle's passion for music and determination to use his influence to spotlight different artists. At the height of his fame, Chappelle organized "Dave Chappelle's Block Party"—a movie built around an all-star concert featuring Legend, The Roots and a reunion of The Fugees.

Nobuhiko Obayashi's 40-film career defined by warning of war's horror

TOKYO (AP)—At 81, Nobuhiko Obayashi has terminal lung cancer, but his confrontation with death began so long ago it has characterized his decades of filmmaking.

Obayashi has stayed true to himself through more than 40 movies and thousands of TV shows, commercials and other video, devoted to warning of the horrors of war.

"I've been doing the same thing and never wavered," Obayashi said at his Tokyo office, appearing frail in a wheelchair but his eyes bright with a mischievous energy.

The works reflect that he grew up during World War II, years remembered for Japan's aggression and atrocities against its neighbors but also a period during which Japanese people suffered hunger, abuse and mass death.

"Someone could push the button any minute," he added, tapping on his desk as an imaginary switch to set off a nuclear bomb.

His voice, gentle and raspy, reflected his conviction, as he stressed in a recent Associated Press interview how he believed in the power of mov-

ies. Movies like his, he says, ask that important question: Where do you stand?

"Movies are not weak," he said, looking offended at such an idea. "Movies express freedom."

He has never made a single film to make money, be famous or pander favors, he said, not hiding his pride.

Obayashi, who has helped define the legacy of Japanese



Obayashi

filmmaking, is being honored at the Tokyo International Film Festival, opening Monday and running through Nov. 5.

"Obayashi has been dubbed a 'cinematic magician' for his dreamlike visual expression," the festival said in a statement.

Among the Obayashi works being screened is his just-completed, three-hour "Labyrinth of Cinema," characteristically anti-war but also an homage to filmmaking. The main characters—young Japanese men who go to an old movie theater but increasingly get sucked into crises—have names emulating cinematic giants, Francois Truffaut, Mario Bava and Don Seigel.

LOS ANGELES (AP)— "The Morning Show" started life as a behind-the-scenes peek at a slice of network TV as familiar and routine as a wake-up cup of coffee. Then shocking revelations of sexual misconduct engulfed NBC's "Today" and beyond, and the story changed.

The 10-part drama series, part of the first wave of shows launching the Apple TV Plus streaming service Nov. 1, expanded its original focus on women's role in media to include the repercussions of workplace bad behavior. It all plays out in the lucrative, hypercompetitive world of A.M. news-and-fluff programming.

"When the Me Too movement happened it was really hard to ignore, nor would we want to ignore it. We would be negligent," said Mimi Leder, an executive producer and director for "The Morning Show."

While Hollywood has paid glancing attention to the sexual abuse and harassment scandals that have roiled it and other industries, with accusations derailing the careers of actors, executives and journalists, "The Morning Show" is among the few major projects to delve more deeply.

Jennifer Aniston and Reese Witherspoon lead the cast that includes Steve Carell, Billy Crudup, Gugu Mbatha-

Raw, Mark Duplass, Nestor Carbonell and Desean Terry. Aniston plays Alex, the long-reigning queen of the now-slumping "Morning Show," and Witherspoon is Bradley,

waiting in the wings for their shot at network glory.

Among them is Daniel (Terry), an African-American co-anchor who chafes at what he considers pressure to down-



This image released by Apple TV Plus shows Jennifer Aniston in a scene from "The Morning Show," debuting Nov. 1, launching the Apple TV Plus streaming service **AP**

an outspoken TV reporter with a shaky job history who lands hard on Alex's turf.

But Alex's longtime co-anchor Mitch (Carell) has already wreaked havoc. The drama opens with him fired by network UBA for multiple instances of alleged misconduct, evoking Matt Lauer's dismissal from "Today." Mitch's banishment creates career and psychological upheaval for Alex and opportunity for those

play his ethnicity and hopes the top anchor job will be his reward. There are impressive displays of ambition and plot twists galore in the three episodes Apple made available of the glossy, expensive-looking drama that's debuting three episodes on Nov. 1. Remaining episodes will be released consecutively on Fridays.

Apple TV Plus costs \$4.99 a month after a seven-day free trial, and a subscription can be

shared with up to six family members. The streaming service is free for a year to buyers of a new iPhone, iPad, Mac or Apple TV box.

Alex's somber on-air response to the scandal evokes memories of Samantha Guthrie and Hoda Kotb telling "Today" viewers about Lauer's November 2017 firing for what NBC called "inappropriate sexual behavior in the workplace." The fallout has yet to subside: co-anchors Guthrie and Kotb returned to the subject of Lauer earlier this month after further allegations against him emerged in Ronan Farrow's new book, "Catch and Kill."

"Morning television is where the women in television were left to pick up the pieces," observed Mary Murphy, an associate professor at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism.

Series executive producer Michael Ellenberg began work on what became "The Morning Show" before #MeToo, saying he was intrigued by "what it means to be a woman in media" and specifically a woman with power in the morning network realm. He found the "authentic, precise" details he needed in journalist Brian Stelter's 2013 nonfiction book, "Top of the Morning: Inside the Cutthroat World of Morning TV."

Masterpiece found in French woman's kitchen sells for \$26.6M

PARIS (AP)—An old painting found in the kitchen of an elderly French woman, who considered it an icon of little importance, has made her a multimillionaire.

The work, a masterpiece attributed to the 13th-century Italian painter Cimabue that was discovered earlier this year, sold for 24 million euros (\$26.6 million) Sunday.

Dominique Le Coent of Acteon Auction House, who sold the masterpiece to an anonymous buyer near Chantilly, north of Paris, said the sale represented a “world record for a primitive, or a pre-1500 work.”

“It’s a painting that was unique, splendid and monumental. Cimabue was the father of the Renaissance. But this sale goes beyond all our dreams,” Le Coent told The Associated Press.

An auctioneer spotted the painting in June while inspecting a woman’s house in Compiègne in northern France and suggested she bring it to experts for an evaluation. It hung on a wall between the kitchen and dining room.

The woman will now receive “the majority” of the sale money, the auction house said.



In this Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2019 file photo, art expert Stephane Pinta points to a 13th-century painting by Italian master Cimabue in Paris, Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2019. AP

The expected sale price had been 4 million to 6 million euros (\$4.4 million to \$6.6 million).

Le Coent said experts were off the mark because it was the first time a Cimabue had ever gone under the hammer. “There’s never been a Cimabue painting on sale so there was no reference previously on how much it could make,” he explained.

Titled “Christ Mocked,” the painting measures about 10 inches by 8 inches (24 by 20 centimeters).

Art experts say it is likely part of a larger diptych that Cimabue painted around 1280, of which two other panels are displayed at the Frick Collection in New York and the National Gallery in London.

The painting’s discovery has sent ripples of excitement through the art world.

Cimabue, who taught Italian master Giotto, is widely considered the forefather of the Italian Renaissance. He broke from the Byzantine style popular in the Middle

Ages and began to incorporate elements of movement and perspective that came to characterize Western painting.

Specialists at the Turquin gallery in Paris initially examined the painting and concluded with “certitude” that it bore the hallmarks of Cimabue.

Stephane Pinta, an art specialist with the Turquin, pointed to likenesses in facial expressions and buildings, as well as the painter’s techniques for conveying light and distance.

Actresses cite lack of Hollywood stylists who get black hair

NEW YORK (AP)—Tiffany Haddish recalls leaving the set of a big-budget movie in tears in search of someone who could properly do her hair. Lorraine Toussaint blithely recounts the times her tresses have been damaged by stylists inexperienced with managing black hair. And Tia Mowry-Hardrict recalls breaking down on set after seeing what was done to her locks.

“It’s mind-blowing to me that we still have to—meaning black actresses—have to fight to have black hairdressers on set for us. There was one time in particular I was doing this movie and, my God, I was the lead. And after this person did my hair, I cried. I was like ‘I cannot like I cannot go out there looking like this,’” said Mowry-Hardrict, star of the Netflix sitcom, “Family Reunion.” I just don’t understand why you have to fight to get someone to understand the importance of that.”

From Oscar winners to stars on the rise, many African American actresses have similar stories about hair struggles in Hollywood. In an industry known for its glamour and beauty, some say the lack of diversity behind the scenes has led to challenging situations for women of color.

While black hair comes in different textures, it is generally defined by its curls ranging from wavy to very tight coils. For years, racism and



This combination photo shows various hairstyles worn by actress-comedian Tiffany Haddish. AP

segregation typically dictated that black people exclusively worked on black hair. Today, that tradition remains as many non-black stylists, for the most part, have not learned how to successfully work with African American hair.

Halle Berry exploded on the Hollywood scene in the early 1990s with a short, pixie hairstyle that would become her signature. Others heavily copied the style, but the Oscar-winner didn’t set out to start a trend—it was a result of previous experiences with some Hollywood stylists.

“That’s why I had short hair,” laughed the actress. “(Maintaining) it was easy. I think as people of color, especially in the business, we haven’t always had people that know how to manage our

hair. Those days are different now—that’s when I started.”

Others say the lack of Hollywood stylists able to properly manage their hair remains a problem.

“I can relate to that 100 percent,” said Sierra Capri, the 20-year-old star of “On My Block,” Netflix’s most-binged original show of 2018. Capri, who says she’s multi-racial but identifies as black, said it’s a relief when an actress finds a stylist who understands black hair.

“We want to look and feel good and we want to feel our best,” she said. “If we feel that we have someone that understands us and understands what we want and what we need, then we’re gonna feel great and we can do what we came to do.”

Queen Latifah said she en-

countered stylists who didn’t know what to do with her hair, particularly early in her career.

“It’s not because their heart wasn’t in the right place—they just didn’t have the skillset to do black hair,” said Latifah, who recently worked with Proctor & Gamble to form “The Queen Collective” to promote racial and gender equality in filmmaking. “As African Americans we have all different shapes, sizes, colors, textures, and you got to be able to work with that. We are always in a position to be able to work with what white people do. That’s just how it’s been, but it has to be reversed. It has to be some respect over here and figuring out what to do with our hair. . So we just really need to add more people to the industry.”

For an encore, ‘Joker’ is No. 1 again at the box office

NEW YORK (AP)—Put on a happy face. “Joker” is No. 1 again.

Todd Phillip’s R-rated comic-book hit regained the top spot at the weekend box office in its fourth week of release, narrowly besting “Maleficent: Mistress of Evil.” The Warner Bros.’ sensation, starring Joaquin Phoenix, took in \$18.9 million in ticket sales over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

That came in just above the \$18.6 million haul for the Walt Disney Co.’s “Maleficent” sequel, which slid to second after a disappointing No. 1 debut last weekend of \$36 million. “Mistress of Evil,” starring Angelina Jolie, is performing better overseas, where it grossed \$64.3 million over the weekend.

With such a close race at the top between “Joker” and “Mistress of Evil,” the order could switch when final figures are released Monday.

But ticket sales have continued to surge well past expectations for “Joker.” With a modest budget of \$60 million, it’s been extraordinarily profitable for Warner Bros.—although the studio, to mitigate risk, shared costs with Bron Studios and Village Roadshow Pictures.

This week, “Joker” became the most successful R-rated movie ever, not accounting for inflation, in worldwide release. It’s made \$849 million globally, including \$47.8 million internationally over the weekend. (Mel Gibson’s “The Passion of the Christ” remains the R-rated domestic leader, with \$370.8 million.)

Despite mixed reviews, “Joker”—a “Taxi Driver”-style spin on a comic-book origin story—has already amassed a box-office total exceeding that of more mainstream superhero movies such as “Thor: Ragnarok” and “Wonder Woman.”

No new releases mustered any competition with the holdovers. The best-performing newcomer was the STX Entertainment horror thriller “Countdown.” It grossed \$9 million. Sony Screen Gems’ “Black and Blue,” a police thriller starring Naomie Harris, opened with \$8.3 million.

Holding especially well was “The Addams Family,” United Artists and MGM’s Halloween-timed animated reboot of the macabre family. It slid just 28% in its second weekend with \$11.7 million, good for third place. Much of the weekend’s

action was in limited or expanding releases for acclaimed Oscar contenders.

Robert Eggers’ “The Lighthouse,” a black-and-white psychological drama starring Willem Dafoe and Robert Pattinson as 19th century lighthouse keepers, made \$3 million on just 586 screens for A24.

Taika Waititi’s “Jojo Rabbit,” about a 10-year-old boy growing up in Nazi Germany, expanded into 55 theaters, earning a strong \$1 million. In September, the Fox Searchlight release won the Toronto Film Festival’s highly predictive audience award, setting it up as a potential Academy Awards favorite. Its initial expansion suggests it will be a hit with audiences, too.

1. “Joker,” \$18.9 million (\$47.8 million international).
2. “Maleficent: Mistress of Evil,” \$18.6 million (\$64.3 million international).
3. “The Addams Family,” \$11.7 million.
4. “Zombieland: Double Tap,” \$11.6 million.
5. “Countdown,” \$9 million.
6. “Black and Blue,” \$8.3 million.
7. “Gemini Man,” \$4 million.
8. “The Lighthouse,” \$3.1 million.
9. “The Current War,” \$2.7 million.
10. “Abominable,” \$2 million.

Less successful was the Bruce Springsteen concert film “Western Stars” (\$560,000 in 537 theaters).

Alfonso Gomez-Rejon’s “The Current War” also finally landed in theaters more than two years after it first premiered. Gomez-Rejon recut his film after Harvey Weinstein, shortly before his downfall, pushed out a critically panned version of the Thomas Edison (Benedict Cumberbatch) and George Westinghouse (Michael Shannon) tale. Gomez-Rejon’s “director’s cut,” which 101 Studios acquired from the now-defunct Weinstein Co., opened with \$2.7 million from about 1,000 theaters.

“Terminator: Dark Fate,” which is expected to lead the box office next weekend, got off to a \$12.8 million start in a handful of international markets before its stateside debut.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Video seems to contradict hotel that ousted Gretchen Wilson

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—Video from a police body camera appears to contradict a New Mexico hotel's story about removing country singer Gretchen Wilson following an alleged noise complaint.

The video obtained by The Associated Press in a public records request shows a confused and angry Wilson in a robe telling police she was

asleep as she's asked to leave around 3 a.m. Oct. 13.

The Grammy Award-winning singer told an officer in the video that she did nothing wrong.

"We don't even have a TV on. We were very quiet," Wilson said.

But the video shows a television on when police enter her room. Wilson, who sang the 2004 hit song "Redneck

Woman," said she and her fiancé were drinking wine and talking softly when the pair started getting phone calls about the volume.

"You must be talking about another room," she said. "It's just been a nightmare at this hotel."

A security guard told police someone reported arguing and a glass breaking. The security guard said Wilson had told the hotel to "call the cops."

But Wilson said the staff at the Hotel Encanto de Las

Cruces was retaliating against her after she asked for room service and was denied. She said hotel employees only came once to her room.

An employee is then heard telling Wilson the manager decided the singer and her group could stay. But Wilson refused.

"We're not going to stay. We are not. We have been treated like (expletive) since



Wilson

we've been here," she said.

Heritage Hotels & Resorts, which owns Hotel Encanto, has not responded to phone messages and emails seeking comment.

Las Cruces police spokesman Dan Trujillo said officers were called to the hotel after Wilson, 46, and other guests had "worn out their welcome."

Wilson, who had performed

at the Las Cruces Country Music Festival the night before, said in a statement that she was in bed when the police arrived.

"There had been no party, no music and not even a TV making noise when I was asked to leave," the statement said. "I was exhausted and upset just like anyone would be in this situation."

After she was kicked out, the musician tweeted that the hotel asked her to leave "in the middle of the night for no reason."

CNN's Zucker calls Facebook's political ad policy ludicrous

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN chief Jeff Zucker says Facebook's policy not to monitor political ads for truth-telling is ludicrous and advised the social media giant to sit out the 2020 election until it can figure out something better.



Zucker

presidential election and a target of Russians who tried to influence the outcome through fake accounts.

"Given what happened in 2016, maybe they should just sit it out and not take any political ads until they figure it out," he said.

Zucker, in an appearance Thursday at a conference sponsored by his own network, also derided rival Fox News as "conspiracy TV" and expressed interest in hiring its former news anchor, Shepard Smith, who left earlier this month.

CNN recently rejected two ads that President Donald Trump's campaign sought to air, saying they repeated allegations against former Vice President Joe Biden that had been proven false.

Facebook ran the ad, however. The company has said that politicians have the right to free speech on its platform and that it's up to citizens to investigate claims.

Zucker called the policy "absolutely ludicrous" and that Facebook should be called out on it. Many Democrats have also criticized the social media giant, which was a potent force in the last

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has said repeatedly that he wants people to "see for themselves what politicians are saying" and that he doesn't think private companies should "censor" politicians. Facebook has a program with third-party fact-checkers including The Associated Press, but the company has said political ads are exempt from its fact-checking operation.

Zucker noted how his own company has beefed up its fact-checking operation since Trump's election and is trying to quickly correct false claims made on its air. Earlier this week, when the president derided a prohibition on taking money from foreign governments as phony, the newspaper showed the constitutional wording on a split screen while he talked.

Lizzo extends the writing credits for her hit 'Truth Hurts'

NEW YORK (AP)—Lizzo is sharing writing credit on her hit song "Truth Hurts" with the creator behind the song's signature line, but not with two other writers who claim they also contributed to the track.

"Truth Hurts" features the popular line, "I just took a DNA test, turns out I'm 100 percent that bitch," which originated from a 2017 tweet by singer Mina Lioness and was turned into a popular meme. On

Wednesday Lizzo wrote on social media that Lioness "is the person I am sharing my success with."

The line was also used in Lizzo's song "Healthy," created in 2017 with the songwriting brothers Justin and Jeremiah Raisen. The Raisens feel they deserve writing credit on "Truth Hurts" as a result, though Lizzo wrote they "had



Lizzo

nothing to do with the line or how I chose to sing it."

"The men who now claim a piece of 'Truth Hurts' did not help me write any part of the song. There was no one in the room when I wrote 'Truth Hurts' except me, Ricky Reed, and my tears. That song is my life, and its words are my truth," Lizzo wrote Wednesday.

In addition, Lizzo's lawyer

Cynthia Arato announced Wednesday that a lawsuit has been filed to establish that the Raisens, as well as Justin "Yves" Rothman, are not entitled to any credit for the song. The lawsuit, filed in federal court in California, notes the Raisens "expressly withdrew any claim to 'Truth Hurts,'" in writing, in April of this year, and subsequently assured Lizzo, again in writing, that they were making no claims to the work."

Craigslist founder donates to group fighting fake news

NEW YORK (AP)—A nonprofit that combats disinformation campaigns says it hopes to reach thousands of U.S. journalists for training in the next few months with the help of a \$1.5 million donation from Craigslist founder Craig Newmark.

The donation to First Draft was announced Thursday. The group said it is making free training available to newsrooms and will conduct 14 "simulations" of news events to show how reporters can recognize and stop the flow of bad information.

Citing Russia's effort to

influence the 2016 election through various means, including the spread of false or misleading stories through social media, First Draft's Claire Wardle said jour-

nalists need to be alert to interests who will try to avoid detection and find weaknesses in the flow of information. Wardle and her sister, Jenni Sargent, co-founded first draft.

In recent months, a manipulated video of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has spread on-



Newmark

line, a false Twitter rumor claimed a mass shooter displayed a bumper sticker supporting Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke, and there was a call to boycott a restaurant chain based on an incorrect report that it was supporting President Donald Trump.

There has also been a spread of websites that look like local news outlets but spread stories based on a political point of view.

There's an increasing trend toward memes and facts spread online that though not technically incorrect, promote a misleading view of an issue. Sargent cited one spread by supporters of stronger border control that gives statistics on the percentage of federal crimes committed by people living in the country without legal permission. If state crimes were included, the percentages would be much lower, she said.

"The only way to stop this is to make people more aware before they share," she said.

Man's dramatic weight loss causes gossip and concern

DEAR ABBY: My husband has lost a significant amount of weight over a very short period of time. He isn't on drugs and eats well. I have begged him to see a doctor. He has come up with a variety of excuses and reasons why he has lost the weight. First it was because he was stressed at work. Then it was because he was stressed at home. Now he says he just needs to eat and exercise more, but he's "SOOO busy," but he'll start eventually.

It has become a problem for several reasons. One, all the church ladies have concluded that I don't cook at home (which I do). Two, he looks so ill and malnourished that people are asking me if he is on drugs (he has been tested at work, and this is not the case). Three, friends and family are deeply concerned but scared to approach him about his health because he swears he feels fine and is actually doing wonderfully.

Abby, I love my husband. He's a good man, although he can sometimes be stubborn and closed-minded. I'm terrified that he's dying of cancer and he's going to leave me a single mom. I can no longer discuss the subject of weight with him because he gets extremely defensive and says I should just give him time to get back to how he was. How long do I give him? It has been 10 months. I'm afraid if this goes on any longer, it will put a strain on our relationship that won't be easily fixed by just talking it out.

ALARMED IN LOUISIANA

DEAR ALARMED: Some people foolishly avoid going to the doctor because they are afraid of what they will hear. You SHOULD be alarmed because your husband's sudden, unexplained, prolonged weight loss can be a symptom of a life-threatening illness.

This is not a question of how or how well you cook (bless those church ladies!), or whether your husband is on drugs. It is a question of you alerting his doctor, explaining what's going on and possibly saving his life. If he won't listen to reason, put it in terms of him being alive long enough to see his child/children into adulthood. But if he still won't listen to reason, then all you can do is make sure his affairs are in order in case the worst happens.

DEAR ABBY: I am about to be shipped off to basic training for the Army, and I have heard many horror stories about military spouses cheating while their significant other is away. Any advice on how to make sure my relationship doesn't end up like that? Do you think she will cheat?

WONDERING IN TENNESSEE

DEAR WONDERING: Having never met your significant other, I have no way of guessing whether she will cheat

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

on you—just as I can't predict if the reverse will be true. But this I do know: Communication is the key to overcoming the physical distance. Writing and Skyping as often as you can to share what's going on will keep you from drifting apart.

Will there be more temptations while you're separated? Probably. That's true for both of you. If you plan on spending the rest of your life with this person—or anyone—you should be confident that she's trustworthy.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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Astros inch closer to World Series victory



WASHINGTON (AP)—Gerrit Cole

and the Houston Astros went to Washington, hoping to snap out of their funk and bring the World Series back to Minute Maid Park.

Not only are they heading home with more games to play, now they're just one win from another crown.

Handed the ball for what was supposed to be a high-stakes showdown against Max Scherzer, Cole gave Houston a firm grip on the Series by beating the Nationals 7-1 Sunday night for a 3-2 lead.

Cole looked exactly like the stud who dominated baseball most of this season, bouncing back from a Game 1 clunker to pitch the Astros to their third straight win.

What a turnaround for his teammates, too—outscored 17-7 overall at home, Houston hammered the Nationals 19-3 in a Washington wipeout.

"We look like ourselves now," Astros manager AJ Hinch said.

Something was definitely missing for the Nationals. Namely, Scherzer.

The three-time Cy Young Award winner beat Cole in the opener, and was the Nats' best hope to slow Houston. But then Scherzer was scratched only 3 1/2 hours before game time because of an irritated nerve near his neck, an injury that could finish him for the Series.

Slumping rookie Yordan Alvarez and Carlos Correa each hit an early two-run homer off emergency starter Joe Ross. George Springer added another postseason drive for the Astros, who led the majors with a franchise-best 107 wins during the regular season.

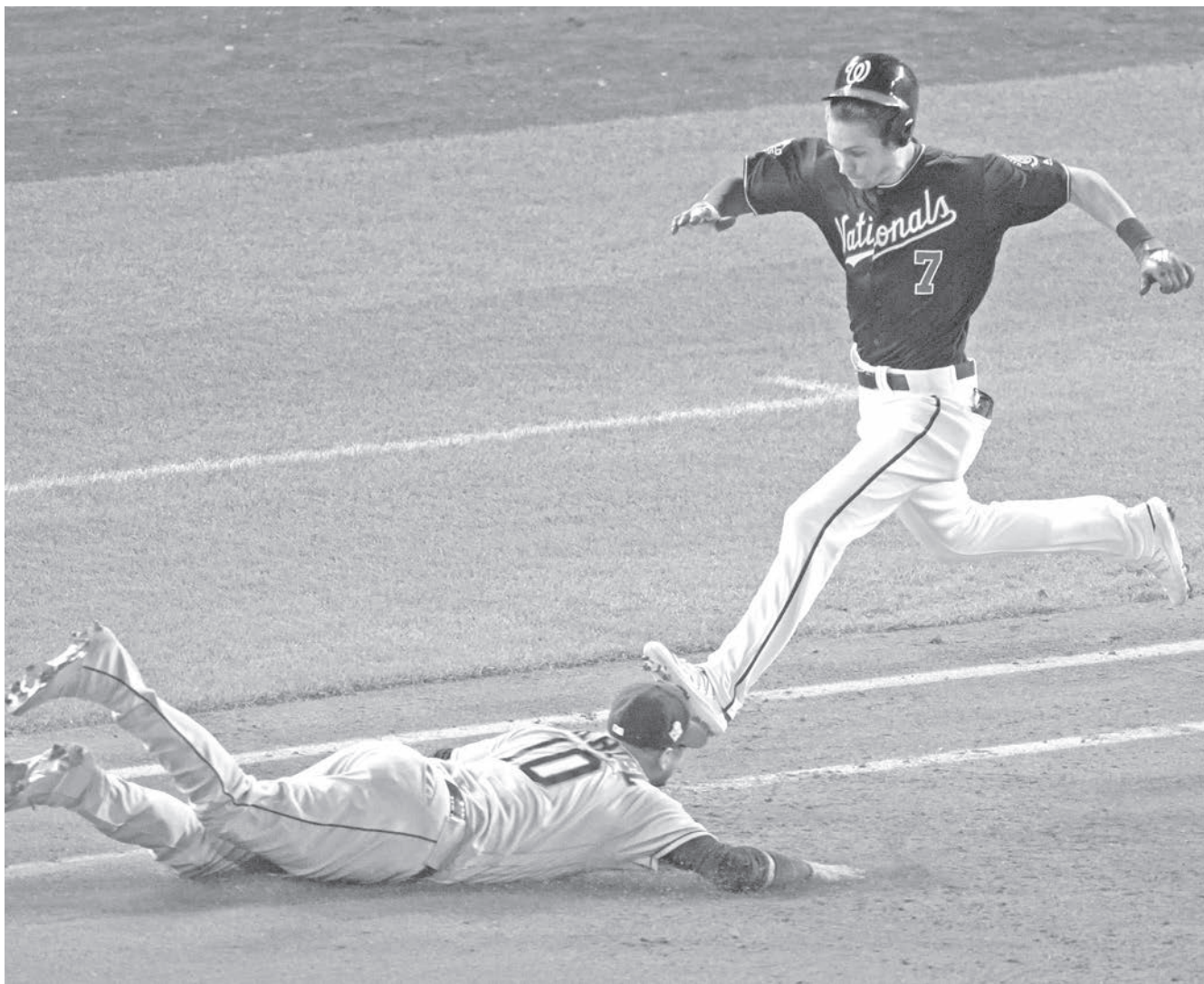
"We actually hit some balls hard. We really did," Washington manager Dave Martinez said. "We just can't get nothing going these last three days."

With the road team winning every time so far, Houston heads home with two chances to claim its second title in three years. Justin Verlander gets the first try when he starts against Stephen Strasburg in Game 6 on Tuesday night.

"High level of confidence," Cole said.

Cole threw three-hit ball for seven innings, nicked only by Juan Soto's home run in the seventh, and struck out nine—eight on breaking balls.

Cole's mix of 99 mph heat and sharp secondary pitches induced a bevy of bad swings from the wild-card Nats as he improved to 4-1 with a 1.72 ERA this postseason. It might've been his final start for Houston—he's eligible for free agency and figures to



Houston Astros first baseman Yuli Gurriel dives to tag the bag and get Washington Nationals' Trea Turner (7) out at first during the sixth inning of Game 5 of the World Series Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019, in Washington.

bat, helmet and gloves, and the crowd soon began a derisive chant at umpire Lance Barksdale.

"I know there were some choice words but that's just in the heat of the moment," Martinez said.

Cole acknowledged he finished his outing "with a break."

"It's tough. I think ultimately some of those pitches were off the plate," he said.

Most fans, meanwhile, stayed to the very end.

"They came to support us and really gave us everything they had all the way to the end, all 27 innings. Hats off to them. We apologize that we didn't give them more to celebrate," outfielder Adam Eaton said. "It wasn't that we didn't try."

Cole led the majors in strikeouts this year, was second to Verlander in wins and topped the AL in ERA. He took a 19-game winning streak into the opener but hardly looked like an October star, giving up five runs over seven uneven innings.

In his second shot at the Nationals, he aced the test. Cole escaped a first-and-third, no-out jam in the second, then breezed into the seventh.

With two outs and a full count on Ryan Zimmerman, Cole suddenly stepped off the mound—video that quickly made the rounds showed two women right behind the backstop lifting their tops to flash Cole. It wasn't clear whether he saw them, and he walked Zimmerman before getting Robles.

Alvarez, normally Houston's designated hitter, justified his spot in left field in a hurry. He launched a drive to left-center in the second and went 3 for 3.

Alvarez hit 27 home runs in 87 games this season, but hadn't connected in 71 at-bats since Sept. 21.

"Obviously we did the job here, which was to win three games. And very happy to go back to Houston and to do my job to hit as a DH," he said through a translator.

Correa made it 4-0 with his homer in the fourth and Yuli Gurriel added a two-out RBI single in the eighth.

Springer's 15th career postseason home run—seven in the World Series for the 2017 Series MVP—finished off the rout.

command a steep price.

Standing tall on the mound, Cole was unflappable in the face of 43,910 fans who went from fired up to furious to flat-out frustrated.

"He knew what this game meant to this Series," Hinch

said. "So, nobody better to have on the mound."

The crowd gave Ross a huge ovation when he walked onto the field for warmups, sympathetic to his situation—he had pitched a total of two innings in almost a month.

But when President Donald Trump was shown on the videoboard for about 10 seconds before the fourth inning, watching from a lower-level suite, the fans let loose with loud boos and broke into a brief but very audible chant of

"Lock him up!"

The fans weren't finished, either.

Cole ended his outing by getting Victor Robles on a called third strike, a pitch the TV zone showed to be off the plate. Robles chucked his

Trump draws boos from crowd in Game 5

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump's low-profile appearance Sunday night at Game 5 of the World Series came at a high-profile moment of his presidency. Yet he still drew loud boos and jeers when introduced to the crowd.

Wearing a dark suit and a tie, Trump arrived at Nationals Park just before the first pitch of the Houston Astros-Washington Nationals matchup. Hours earlier, he had announced that U.S. forces had assaulted the hiding place of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who was killed in the raid in northeast Syria.

A military success against a most-wanted enemy of the U.S. and its allies could have provided the president a rare moment of bipartisan comity, especially amid a divisive impeachment inquiry.

Trump and first lady Melania Trump entered a lower-tier box to the left of home plate as the game got underway. At that point his presence wasn't formally announced, but baseball fans in the section just below Trump's suite turned to look toward the box

as he arrived. Some waved at the president as he smiled and gave a thumbs-up.

At the end of the third inning, ballpark video screens carried a salute to U.S. service members that drew cheers throughout the stadium. When the video cut to Trump and his entourage and the loudspeakers announced the Trumps, cheers abruptly turned into a torrent of boos and heckling. Chants of "Lock him up!" broke out in some sections.

Trump appeared unfazed and continued waving. Later, some fans behind home plate held a sign reading "VETERANS FOR IMPEACHMENT". Another banner appeared during the game: "IMPEACH TRUMP!"

Nats fans get empty feeling after 3 straight losses

Nationals fans hoped to celebrate a championship with the home team this weekend at the first World Series in Washington since 1933.

Instead, the red-clad, towel-waving faithful watched the teetering Nationals absorb three straight defeats by a col-

lective 19-3 score.

Following a 7-1 setback Sunday night, Washington prepared for a trip to Houston trailing 3-2 in a World Series that shifted dramatically during a lost weekend for the Nats.

After winning twice in Houston, Washington came up flat in its own ballpark. The Nationals tried hard to give the fans something to cheer about, but the home team never once held the lead.

"They came to support us and really gave us everything they had all the way to the end, all 27 innings," right fielder Adam Eaton said. "Hats off to them. We apologize that we didn't give them more to celebrate. It wasn't that we didn't try."

On Sunday, the third straight sellout crowd lost much of its enthusiasm after a pair of two-run homers put the Astros in front 4-0 in the fourth inning. A solo shot by Juan Soto in the seventh cut the gap, but there would be no comeback.

Washington hit just one home run during the three-game set, managed only five extra-base hits and went 1 for

21 with runners in scoring position.

"We actually hit some balls hard, we really did," manager Dave Martinez said. "We just can't get nothing going these last three days."

And so, the wait between World Series victories for Washington at home is at 86 years and counting.

Before this stretch, Washington had not lost successive games since Sept. 13-14. Between that two-game skid and this current slide, the Nationals went 22-5.

This marks Washington's first three-game losing streak since dropping four in row from Sept. 4-7.

Shortstop Trea Turner, who's batting .136 after going 0 for 4, said, "We hit the ball pretty well tonight for scoring one run, just right at people."

Fans arrived at the ballpark Sunday with the modest expectation of watching the Nationals regain the upper hand following 4-1 and 8-1 losses. Washington was supposed to have ace Max Scherzer on the mound, but the right-hander was scratched with spasms in his right trapezius and neck.

Woods ties Snead's record of 82 PGA Tour wins

INZAI CITY, Japan (AP)—For Tiger Woods, it all comes down to consistency.

Surgeries on his knee and back and a crisis in his personal life have cost him opportunities to play his best golf over the past decade. But when he's been healthy and free from off-course distractions, he's always found ways to win. And now, he's won as much as anybody on the PGA Tour.

Woods completed a wire-to-wire victory at the Zozo Championship on Monday, equaling Sam Snead's PGA Tour record of 82 victories.

"It's a big number," Woods said. "It's a lot of consistency and doing it for a long period of time, Sam did it into his 50s and I'm in my early to mid-40s, so it's about being consistent and doing it for a very long period of time. I've been very fortunate to have the career I've had so far."

The 43-year-old returned Monday to play the final seven holes in the rain-hit tournament, completing a 3-under 67 to beat local favorite Hideki Matsuyama by three strokes at Accordia Golf Narashino Country Club.

Woods had arthroscopic surgery on his left knee two months ago — his fifth on the same problem joint. He's also had four back surgeries, including a spinal fusion, and looked at times as if his career was over, but he returned to win the Tour Championship in 2018 before his triumph at the Masters in April for his 15th major.

The Japan event was Woods' first start of his 23rd season on the PGA Tour.

"I can still manage my way around the golf course," Woods said. "I know how to play. I was able to do that this week."

The fourth round was suspended because of darkness Sunday with Woods holding a three-stroke lead over Matsuyama in the first official PGA Tour event in Japan.

He bogeyed his first hole of the

AP
Tiger Woods of the United States poses with his trophy after winning the Zozo Championship PGA Tour at the Accordia Golf Narashino country club in Inzai, east of Tokyo, Japan, Monday, Oct. 28, 2019.



day, the par-4 12th, but was solid the rest of the way with birdies on Nos. 14 and 18 to finish at 19-under 261. Matsuyama also closed with a 67.

Woods opened with consecutive 64s, with a day off in between because of rain. He had a 66 on Sunday in the third round.

"It's been a long week," Woods said. "Five days at the top of the lead-

erboard is a long time."

As the U.S. Presidents Cup captain, Woods was asked about picking himself for the team.

"I think the player got the captain's attention," Woods said.

Woods' approach shot on the 12th found a greenside bunker. He blasted out and left himself a long par putt that he missed for bogey, cutting the

lead to two strokes.

But that was the only time he would falter.

Matsuyama missed a short birdie putt on the par-5 14th with a chance to cut the lead to a stroke. Woods, playing in the group behind Matsuyama, made birdie to restore the three-stroke lead.

Matsuyama cut the lead to two

with a birdie on par-3 16th. On the par-5 18th, he drove into a fairway bunker, and hit his approach into a greenside bunker before saving par.

Woods' second shot on 18 also found a greenside bunker. He blasted to 10 feet and made the putt.

Woods last played in an official tournament in Japan in 2006 at the Dunlop Phoenix, where he lost in a playoff to Padraig Harrington. He won the Dunlop Phoenix the two previous years.

It was a wild debut for the PGA in Japan. Torrential rain washed out play Friday, forcing the second round to be moved to Saturday. To make up for the lost day, the players started the fourth round immediately after finishing the third to get in as many holes as possible.

The course took on over 8 inches of rain Friday and was in remarkably good shape when play resumed on Saturday for the second round.

Woods got in 11 holes and played 29 holes Sunday before having to come back for a 7:30 a.m. start.

"This was certainly demanding," Woods said. "Being in the lead for the better part of five days puts a stress on the mind. It's not easy to do. ... It's stressful, it wears one out, but somehow I was able to finish out on top and made key putts this week."

Rory McIlroy, the highest-ranked player in the field, completed his round with two birdies for a 67 to tie for third at 13 under with Sungjae Im, who shot 65.

And at the end of a long week of golf, Woods was still talking about consistency when asked if he could envision winning in his 50s like Snead did.

"As far as playing until 52, I hope that's the case," Woods said. "If you would have asked me a few years ago, I would have given you a different answer, but certainly the future looks brighter than it has and hopefully I can be as consistent as he was well into my 40s and early 50s."

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Lakers acquired two veteran NBA big men in the offseason, and they both got wild cheers for their outstanding performances Sunday night in a runaway win over Charlotte.

That's no surprise in the case of Anthony Davis, who gave Lakers fans their best look yet at his world-class talent.

In the case of Dwight Howard, it's a minor miracle how quickly he has landed in Los Angeles' good graces again.

Davis had 29 points and 14 rebounds, and Howard added 16 points, 10 boards and four blocked shots in a 120-101 victory over the Hornets.

LeBron James had 20 points, 12 assists and six rebounds for the Lakers, who took control of their second straight victory with an 18-2 rally starting late in the third quarter. But he was most excited afterward about their strong defensive perfor-

AD, Dwight lead Lakers past Hornets

mance and the potential for growth encapsulated in Davis and Howard.

"That's the luxury of our depth," James said.

Davis showed off the breadth of his skills during a 25-point first half, scoring 16 points in the first quarter while dominating on both ends. After a sometimes-tentative start to his Lakers career, he was aggressive from the start against Charlotte's young frontcourt.

"I shot the ball poorly the first two games, and I was just trying to get into a rhythm," Davis said. "When I get easy looks, it kind of gets me going."

When Davis took a step back after halftime, James and Howard took charge. That's what the Lakers' depth allows them to do in difficult matchups, even with these partnerships and connections still new in the third game of the season.

While James orchestrated the offense, Howard put in an impressive all-around performance that drew multiple ovations from the same fan base that booed him relentlessly for the past six years after he left the Lakers in free agency. Now back as a reserve center, Howard has already turned the tide with his dunks, defense and overall effort in the team's first two home games.

When Howard blocked a shot into the crowd and did a Mutombo finger-wag while flashing his famous smile, Lakers fans jumped from their seats to cheer.

Thunder 120, Warriors 92

In Oklahoma City, Dennis Schroder scored 22 points to help the Thunder rout the Golden State Warriors for their first victory of the season.

The blowout matched Oklahoma City's largest margin of victory over the Warriors since the franchise moved from Seattle before the 2008-09 season.

Danilo Gallinari added 21 points and Shai Gilgeous-Alexander had 19 points and nine rebounds for the Thunder. They opened the season with losses to Utah and Washington.

Stephen Curry scored 23 points for the Warriors, making 7 of 18 shots while his teammates made just 23 of 74. Golden State was coming off a season-opening home loss to the Los Angeles Clippers.

Trail Blazers 121, Mavericks 119

In Dallas, Damian Lillard made a twisting layup with 26 seconds remaining and scored 26 of his 28 points in the second half in Portland's victory over the Mavericks.

Lillard's basket gave the Blazers a 120-119 lead. Dallas' Luka Doncic then missed a 3-point attempt and Portland won a challenge of a call that would have sent the Mavericks' Dorian Finney-Smith to the foul line.

Instead, there was a jump ball. The Blazers' Kent Bazemore got the ball and was fouled. He made the first of two free throws. Doncic rebounded and passed to Tim Hardaway, whose shot from about midcourt rattled off the front of the rim a time expired.

CJ McCollum led Portland with 35 points. Kristaps Porzingis scored 32 points for Dallas, and Doncic had 29 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists.

Grizzlies 134, Nets 133, OT

In Memphis, Jae Crowder hit a 3-pointer from the top of the

key as time expired in overtime, lifting the Grizzlies past Brooklyn for its first victory of the season.

Rookie Ja Morant led the Grizzlies with 30 points and had his ninth assist on Crowder's winning basket. Morant also blocked Kyrie Irving's shot at the end of regulation to keep the score tied at 120-all.

Irving had 37 points, seven rebounds and seven assists.

Timberwolves 116, Heat 109

In Minneapolis, Andrewiggins made four 3-pointers in the final six minutes, finishing with 25 points to propel undefeated Minnesota past Miami.

Karl-Anthony Towns added 23 points and 11 rebounds for the Wolves. At 3-0, they matched the second-best start in the long-languishing franchise's history. They were 6-0 in 2001-02 and 3-0 in 2013-14.

Kendrick Nunn had 25 points for Miami.

Rodgers, Packers top Mahomes-less Chiefs



KANSAS CITY, Mo.
(AP)—It was supposed to be a prime-time

showdown between the Green Bay Packers and Kansas City Chiefs, division leaders each led by two of the most talented and exciting quarterbacks in the NFL.

Aaron Rodgers and the Packers lived up to the billing.

Patrick Mahomes never got the chance.

Rodgers threw for 305 yards and three touchdowns, two of them to Aaron Jones on a big night for the Green Bay running back, and the Packers held off fill-in quarterback Matt Moore and the rest of the banged-up Chiefs for a 31-24 victory Sunday night.

"I totally trust our quarterback," Packers coach Matt LaFleur said, "and I trust Aaron Jones as a receiver. He made some great plays all night long."

Jones, who briefly left with a shoulder injury, had seven catches for 159 yards and added 67 on the ground—a big chunk of them in the closing minutes, when the Packers (7-1) sealed their first win at Arrowhead Stadium since Nov. 4, 2007.

"He's very talented," Rodgers said, "and I think this scheme is giving him the opportunity to do a lot more out of the backfield. You know, we're splitting him out and throwing the ball to him. We kind of caught lightning in a bottle there a couple of times. Hit him on a slant-and-go for 50 and on a screen pass for 70 or whatever. He's a talented guy. I'm very proud of him."

Saints 31, Cardinals 9

In New Orleans, Drew Brees passed for 373 yards and three touchdowns in his first game in more than five weeks since thumb surgery, and the New Orleans Saints defeated the Arizona Cardinals.

With few exceptions, Brees was accurate and looked composed even as his pass blocking collapsed, completing 34 of 43 passes.

He was intercepted once, by Patrick Peterson, but was not pressured before throwing that aggressive, risky pass down the left sideline, where fullback Zach Line was double-covered.

Chargers 17, Bears 16

In Chicago, kicker Eddy Pineiro missed a 41-yard field goal as time expired and Los Angeles hung on for the win.

The Bears (3-4) took over at their 35 with 1:33 remaining and had a chance to win it after driving all the way to the 21. Chicago had quarterback Mitchell Trubisky take a



knee with about 40 seconds left rather than try to get closer to the goal line. And Pineiro, who hit an upright on a miss earlier, hooked the potential winner wide left as time expired.

Texans 27, Raiders 24

In Houston, Deshaun Watson threw for 279 yards and three touchdowns, including the go-ahead score in the fourth quarter to lift Houston past Oakland after the Texans lost defensive end J.J. Watt.

Watt sustained a season-ending pectoral injury in the second quarter.

There were about 6 1/2 minutes left when Watson evaded the rush and connected with Darren Fells on a 9-yard scoring toss to put Houston up 27-24. Watson appeared to get kicked in the face on the play and remained on the turf for a few minutes and was tended to by trainers before getting to his feet and walking to the medical tent. But he was OK and returned on the next possession.

Eagles 31, Bills 13

In New York, rookie Miles Sanders scored on a career-best 65-yard touchdown run and Philadelphia snapped a two-game skid with a win over Buffalo.

Carson Wentz finished 17 of 24 for 172 and a touchdown passing in a game the Eagles blew open by scoring TDs 83 seconds apart spanning halftime.

Dallas Goedert scored on a 5-yard catch. Jordan Howard

had a team-best 96 yards rushing and scored on a 3-yard run, and Boston Scott scored on a 4-yard run after Sanders left the game with a shoulder injury in the third quarter.

49ers 51, Panthers 13

In California, Tevin Coleman scored three of his four touchdowns in the first half, rookie Nick Bosa had three sacks to go along with an acrobatic interception and San Francisco remained unbeaten with a victory over Carolina Panthers in its highest-scoring game in 26 years.

The Niners (7-0) are off to their best start since winning their first 10 games in 1990 but still faced questions because five of those first six victories came against teams that have losing records.

But San Francisco delivered perhaps its most complete performance of the season against the streaking Panthers (4-3), who had won four straight games and featured one of the league's top defenses.

Titans 27, Buccaneers 23

In Nashville, Ryan Tannehill threw an 8-yard touchdown pass to A.J. Brown with 6:55 left, and Tennessee rallied to beat Tampa Bay for its second straight win.

Tennessee came in with the NFL's No. 4 scoring defense, having not allowed more than 20 points in a game all season. The Buccaneers entered with the league's fourth-best offense, averaging 28.8 points a game, and they became the

first to top the mark.

The Titans (4-4) led 14-3 after turning a pair of first-quarter turnovers into two TD passes by Tannehill.

The Bucs (2-6) lost their third straight and fourth in five games.

Patriots 27, Browns 13

In Massachusetts, Tom Brady threw for 259 yards and two touchdown passes and Bill Belichick earned his 300th NFL coaching victory in the Patriots' win over the Cleveland.

Belichick sits behind only Don Shula (347) and George Halas (324) on the NFL's all-time win list.

The Patriots improved to 8-0 for the third time in team history and the first time since 2015, when they started 10-0. The Browns (2-5) have lost three straight games.

Brady completed 20 of 36 passes, hitting Julian Edelman on eight of them for 78 yards and both TDs.

New England capitalized on three first-quarter turnovers by Cleveland to take a 17-0 lead. Running back Nick Chubb had back-to-back fumbles and quarterback Baker Mayfield had an interception.

Rams 24, Bengals 10

In London, wide receiver Cooper Kupp caught seven passes for a career-best 220 yards, Jared Goff threw for two touchdowns and Los Angeles beat winless Cincinnati to make for another successful trip to London.

Kupp caught a 65-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter on a double reverse flea-flicker from Goff, and the duo teamed up for a 40-yarder shortly after halftime to set up another score at Wembley Stadium.

Goff went 17 of 31 for 372 yards, 273 of which came in the first half. Kupp had 165 receiving yards by halftime and didn't catch another pass in the final 27 minutes of the game.

It was a second straight win for the Rams (5-3) in London, where they blanked the Arizona Cardinals 33-0 on their previous visit in 2017.

Colts 15, Broncos 13

In Indianapolis, Adam Vinatieri made a 51-yard field goal with 22 seconds left to help Indianapolis rally for a victory over Denver.

The NFL's career scoring leader overcame two earlier misses to keep Indy (5-2) atop the AFC South with its third straight victory.

Denver (2-6) has lost two in a row.

The difference this time was the Broncos settled for two short field goals on time-consuming drives in the first half. Brandon McManus made a 21-yarder to cap a 17-play drive that consumed nearly eight minutes and a 29-yarder on their next possession when the Broncos burned nearly 5+ minutes in 13 plays to make it 6-0.

Seahawks 27, Falcons 20

In Atlanta, Russell Wilson threw two touchdown passes

AP
Green Bay Packers running back Jamaal Williams (30) is tackled by Kansas City Chiefs safety Juan Thornhill (22), as safety Daniel Sorensen (49) jumps during the second half of an NFL football game in Kansas City, Mo., Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019.

to DK Metcalf, Chris Carson ran for 90 yards and a score, and Seattle beat the Falcons.

Seattle led 24-0 at halftime as the Falcons offense floundered early in their first start without quarterback Matt Ryan in 10 years. Ryan's streak of 154 consecutive regular-season starts ended as he was held out with a sprained right ankle.

The Falcons (1-7) have lost six straight games, leaving coach Dan Quinn's status a hot topic as the team enters its bye week. Team owner Arthur Blank said after the game he will "take the next couple of weeks" before reaching a decision on Quinn's future.

Wilson completed first-half touchdown passes of 4 and 2 yards to Metcalf. Wilson completed 14 of 20 passes for 182 yards with no interceptions.

Jaguars 29, Jets 15

In Florida, Sam Darnold went from seeing ghosts to seeing teal.

Darnold was sacked a career-high eight times and threw three interceptions in Jacksonville's 29-15 victory over New York.

He was picked off twice in the fourth quarter, including one that set up Gardner Minshew's game-sealing score to DJ Chark with a little more than four minutes to play. Minshew completed 22 of 34 passes for 279 yards and three touchdowns. He scrambled for another 32 yards.

Minshew connected with Keelan Cole and Chris Conley for first-quarter touchdowns for the Jaguars (4-4).

Lions 31, Giants 26

In Detroit, Matthew Stafford threw two of his three touchdown passes to Kenny Golladay and the Lions snapped a three-game losing streak with a victory over slumping New York.

The Lions (3-3-1) took a two-TD lead in the first quarter and Stafford's 41-yard flea flicker to Golladay early in the fourth put them ahead by 12 points.

New York (2-6) turned the ball over on downs at the Lions 39 with 6:25 and at their 14 with 3:27 left, but it had another chance to come back.

Giants rookie Daniel Jones threw a 4-yard TD pass to Saquan Barkley and an extra point pulled them within five points late in the game.

PSS to host v-ball tournament on Rota

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER



The Public School System will be holding the Goodwill Girls Volleyball Tournament on Rota next month.

According to PSS Athletic

Program coordinator Nick Gross, they will bring Kagman High School, Saipan Southern High School, Marianas High School, and Tinian High School teams to Rota to play in friendly games. Rota and Tinian failed to field squads in the PSS Interscholastic Girls High School Volleyball Tournament that con-

cluded last week.

"We're bringing over Kagman, Southern, Marianas High, and Tinian High School students to Rota because Tinian and Rota weren't able to make it to our volleyball tournament this year," Gross said.

The goodwill event was

scheduled for Oct. 26, but has been pushed back to Nov. 22 due to Typhoon Buoloi that posed a threat to the Marianas last week.

"We're going to go to Rota on Nov. 22 to have two days of goodwill volleyball play. Star Marianas is doing a lot

to transport our students and it's just difficult to get enough commutes to get teams over and everything in a succinct way," Gross said.

The PSS staff also mentioned that the tournament will incorporate a sort of mental health discussion among high

school students in the CNMI.

"We will be doing a lock in because we're also treating this as a mental health opportunity to get a real good cross section of all three islands communities and the teenagers together. We're going to have campfire chats," Gross said.

18 teams to join UFO caging

Eighteen teams have already shown interest in the United Filipino Organization Basketball League that is tentatively set to kick off in the third week of November.

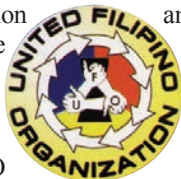
According to UFO president Mar Masilungan, 12 teams have already registered for the open division, while six squads have signed up to play in the masters category.

Masilungan added that they are still considering other teams and because of the large number of participants, they are looking to hold games in this year's UFO

caging at two venues—the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium. UFO league officials will meet with the representatives of the two facilities to discuss details of the competition and its kick-off date.

The UFO caging is making a comeback after a two-year absence.

Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani was the last team to win the UFO league championship after beating 8th Division/MAFEA, 78-62, in the 2016 finale. *(Kimberly A. Bautista)*



IT&E

From Page 28

in two early triples to anchor the team's offense en route to their 29-12 advantage after the 10 minutes of play.

IT&E went on to pull away further, as the game progressed with its way deeper roster dominating AK Toyota. Brendon Talania, Bart Demapan, Elmer Esdrelon, and Marlon De Dios joined IT&E's scoring spree, as all finished in twin digits, while Jaymark De Guzman and Jack Aranda combined for 16 markers despite playing limited minutes.

Alvin Pantola had 18 points to lead AK Toyota, which dropped to a 2-6 record and will close out its elimination round assignment this Saturday when it takes on Bridge Capital, LLC.

Meanwhile, Mystique also coasted to victory after taking full control of its match against TanHoldings in the second quarter.

The second canto started with Mystique ahead by only 6, 27-21, before it widened the gap to 21 at the end of the first half, 64-43, behind the hot hands of Jonathan Broncano and Jetzen Jandoc. Broncano drilled a baker's dozen in the second frame, while Jandoc added 10.

Mystique never looked back after that with Jandoc still on target in the second half and his other teammates helping out in pounding TanHoldings. Broncano finished off TanHoldings after firing 10 more points in the fourth canto.

Jandoc paced Mystique with his 32 points, while TanHoldings, which showed up for the match with only five players, drew a season-high 47 markers from Kerwin Dayao.

TanHoldings is the only team that has yet to win in the inaugural league and will have its last chance to end the slump tonight when it faces The Game.

Saturday Game

IT&E 111—Barbo 20, Rabasto 20, Talania 13, Demapan 11, Esdrelon 11, De Dios 10, De Guzman 8, Aranda 8, Peredo 6, Rafols 4.

AK Toyota 67—Pantola 18, Fital 17, Lauron 10, Sekool 9, Boswell 7, Catalla 4, Castillo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 29-12, 61-26, 77-43, 111-67.

Thursday Game

Mystique BBQ 125—Jandoc 32, Broncano 23, Torres 19, Gaviola 18, Isip 10, Moises 8, Bernardo 6, Dancel 5, Castillo 4.

TanHoldings 99—Dayao 47, Tenepere 18, Torregosa 14, Echavez 10, Lumen 10.

Scoring by quarters: 27-21, 64-43, 94-77, 125-99.

TEAM STANDINGS

(As of Oct. 28, 2019)		
Teams	W	L
Saipan Vegas	8	0
IT&E	7	1
Caravan's	5	3
MS Villagomez	4	2
Bridge Capital	4	3
Aqua Resort	3	5
Mystique BBQ	3	5
The Game	2	5
AK Toyota	2	6
TanHoldings	0	8



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Marianas High School players eye a return to Saipan International School during their playoff game in the PSS Interscholastic Girls High School Volleyball Tournament last week at the MHS Gymnasium.

MT. CARMEL

From Page 28

Bisek posted the only goal for Hopwood 1.

Meanwhile, for the Oct. 16 and 18 matches, Mt. Carmel beat Hopwood 1, 5-2; Francisco M. Sablan Middle School

downed Hopwood 2, 2-0; and SIS blanked Chacha, 3-0.

ELEMENTARY DIVISION

Koblerville 2, MCS 0

Over at the TSL Sports Complex for ISL's futsal competition, Koblerville Elementary

School shut down Mt. Carmel in their Oct. 15 duel.

Rosie Jean Saralu recorded the two goals for the Umangs.

SIS 2, WSR 1

The Geckos edged out William S. Reyes Elementary School after hitting the board

in the second half.

Sean Park knocked in the brace for SIS in the final half of the match, while Alyssa Borlongan scored for WSR, also in the second half.

In other results, Gregorio T. Camacho dominated Saipan Community, 7-1.

TSINGTAO

From Page 28

each of the first three quarters of the finale, but could not get a sizeable lead, as Connie's BBQ always found a way to keep the gap close.

Tsingtao took a 24-16 advantage after the first period, behind the 8 markers of Jetzen Jandoc. The forward added 6 in the second frame to keep Tsingtao on top, 40-34. After an impressive first half, Jandoc got into foul trouble and was held to one field goal before eventually fouling out midway in the penultimate frame, which ended with Tsingtao clinging to a 60-58 lead.

After keeping Tsingtao within striking distance in the first three periods, Connie's BBQ finally caught up with its foe and knotted the count, 71-all, off Boboy Centina's basket.

However, Connie's BBQ failed to complete the comeback, as it committed costly fouls down the homestretch and Tsingtao capitalized by making the important free throws.

Jandoc led the way for Tsingtao with his 16 points, while Peter Ariar, Jonathan

Broncano, and Tenepere also finished in twin digits with 14, 13, and 10, respectively. Barbo paced Connie's after also scoring 16 points.

Tsingtao 74—Jandoc 16, Ariar 14, Broncano 13, Tenepere 10, Demonteverde 8,

Pineda 5, Pangelinan 4, Giron 2, Del Rio 2.

Connie's BBQ 71—Barbo 16, Bongalan 11, Cabang 10, Camacho 8, Deleon Guerrero 6, Esmores 5, Rodriguez 5, Danao 5, Centina 4.

Scoring by quarters: 24-16, 40-34, 60-58, 74-71.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Tsingtao players pose for a photo after beating Connie's BBQ in the championship game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Sunday night at the Civic Center Court. Also in the photo is league commissioner Nelson Samson, standing right.



Astros inch closer to World Series victory

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Woods ties Snead's record of 82 PGA Tour wins

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Tsingtao beats Connie's in finale

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Tsingtao Boyz squeezed out a 74-71 win over Connie's BBQ in the championship game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Sunday night at the Civic Center Court.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

IT&E's Darwin Barbo takes off for a layup during their game against AK Toyota in the 2019 Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

IT&E, Mystique roll past foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mystique BBQ and IT&E waltzed past their respective opponents in the 2019 Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

IT&E pummeled AK Toyota in last Saturday's game, 111-67, while Mystique BBQ routed TanHoldings last Thursday's, 125-99.

The easy win gave IT&E a

7-1 record and second place in the team standings behind the unbeaten Saipan Vegas, which improved to an 8-0 mark and moved one win away from sweeping the regular season following a free win (forfeit) over Aqua Resort in the first match last Saturday.

Sean Rabasto and Darwin Barbo top-scored for IT&E, as each had 20 points with the former knocking

See IT&E on Page 27



Tsingtao went 3-for-4 from the foul line in the closing seconds of the exciting finale to escape with the title victory. Mark Demonteverde had a split to break the 71-all deadlock, while Ramsa Tenepere made both his charities to ice it for Tsingtao.

The two free throws were the only baskets Tenepere made, but they counted the most, as he delivered under pressure after drawing a foul from Darwin Barbo with five seconds left in the game.

Following Tenepere's perfect performance from the stripe, Connie's BBQ sued for time to map out its final play. However, Connie's BBQ failed to execute when the game resumed, as instead of going for a triple with gunner Kerwin Danao left open from beyond the arc, the team opted to pass the ball to Barbo. The Connie's BBQ big man then missed on his layup and there was a battle for the rebound, which Tsingtao won and the eventual champion just dribbled down the time to secure the title.

Tsingtao led at the end of

See TSINGTAO on Page 27



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Tsingtao's Jetzen Jandoc, left, draws a foul from Connie's BBQ's Benjie Esmores during their title game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Sunday night at the Civic Center Court.

Mt. Carmel still undefeated

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mt. Carmel School is still perfect in the middle school division of the 2019 NMIFA Interscholastic Soccer League after

notching a pair of wins last week at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. The Knights ham-



mered Chacha Oceanview Middle School, 12-1, last Friday or two days after outclassing Hop-

wood Middle School 2, 4-1, for a 5-0-0 win-draw-loss record and a sweep of the round-robin elimination.

Against Chacha, Gabby San Nicolas powered Mt. Carmel to the easy victory with his hat trick. Leland Deleon Guerrero, Ruben Guerrero, and Miles Linden contributed two goals apiece, while Devin Propst, Earl Lacandezo, and Markus Toves added one each.

Leon Dela Cruz nailed the lone goal for Chacha.

Versus Hopwood 2, Toves delivered a pair for the Knights, while Guerrero and Linden chipped in one apiece.

In other results last Wednesday, Saipan International School topped Hopwood 1, 4-2.

Andrew Sablan registered two goals for the Geckos, who drew one each from Xavier Lee and Allen Cho. Jayvin

See MT. CARMEL on Page 27



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mt. Carmel School's Markus Toves, right, takes a shot during their middle school game against Hopwood Middle School 1 in the 2019 NMIFA Interscholastic Soccer League last Oct. 18 at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.